Hafa Adai!

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CHC still awaiting $2.6M for immediate needs. PAGE 3
'Close off Fund's DB plan, but no liquidation.' PAGE 7

'4th group' may be removed from HR 1466

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The fourth group of people covered in Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) H.R. 1466—mostly foreign parents of minor U.S. citizen children—may be removed from the bill that proposes a "CNMI-only resident status" to four groups of people as "compromise" with mostly Republican members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

» Alien parents of US citizen kids may be dropped from bill

HR 1466 has been stalled but is still in union calendar.

Sablan, when asked for comment last night, said he is "still in conversation with other members of Congress and that there has been some progress in that conversation, but there are still outstanding issues."

Among those outstanding issues is the fourth group of people that HR 1466 proposes to help—those who are immediate relatives of U.S. citizens as of May 8, 2008, regardless of the age of those U.S. citizens, and continuing to be on the islands with legal status. The issue is that allowing this class of people to get some form of status could set a precedent on U.S. soil.

"It is not my intention to change HR 1466. But in Congress, as in any legislature, legislating something requires negotiation and maybe compromise but

See HR 1466 on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Douglas Brennan, back row, and Education Committee members Vickie Izuka, Kanae Quinn, Aileen Arnold, and Vince Seman join on stage the five Chamber scholars for 2012 at Saipan World Resort in Susupe yesterday. The Chamber scholars are Amber Roberts, Angeline Sahagun, Jessica Lee, Elloise Lotoc, and Kimberly Vitug.

WHEN IT COMES TO PAYING FOR COLLEGE

CNMI at a disadvantage—Sablan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Kimberly Vitug, 18, will be the first in her family to enter college, which could cost some $32,000 to $38,000, at a time when her father recently lost his job as a maintenance staffer at Coral Ocean Point and her mother is growing orchids for sale to help make ends meet.

» Chamber awards college scholarships to 5 students

"I'm the first in my family to go to college. I am pressured because my parents have high expectations of me but I appreciate their support and I hope to live

See CNMI on Page 4

Malae: 24-hr water for Saipan nears 95 pct.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. could soon enjoy uninterrupted water supply, according to outgoing executive director Abe Utu Malae, who said that 24-hour water for Saipan is approaching 95 percent this month.

In his exit report to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Malae also highlighted the many successes of CUC in both water and wastewater services under his tenure. He conceded, though, that these

Malae

achievements will be tenuous since the infrastructure still requires several improvements to truly ensure a reliable water and wastewater system.

Based on CUC's goals, it must achieve 24/7 water supply for Saipan by November 2012. It also targets to reduce energy consumption in water and wastewater by 15 percent by November this year.

Malae attributed the near-achievement of 24/7 water supply to the coordinated teamwork of the water and wastewater

See MALAE on Page 4

OPINION METER
This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the hardest and 5 the easiest, how would you rate the ease of entry to and exit from the CNMI since federal authorities took over the local immigration system?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

NATION

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker beats back a recall challenge.

➤ PAGE 14

WORLD

Mourners silently walk between rows of the dead from a plane crash in Nigeria. ➤ PAGE 16

LIFE & STYLE

The report of the first doctor to reach President Lincoln after he was shot has been found.

➤ PAGE 19

Local

Fitial to recall Guerrero's appointment to MPLT board

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will recall his appointment of Francisco Q. Guerrero to the Marianas Public Land Trust board, press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday.

Guerrero, also a former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair, is facing charges of allegedly molesting a 16-year-old girl. He was allowed to post a property bond on Tuesday, a day after his arrest.

"While the governor is cognizant that a person is innocent until proven guilty, the governor has decided that it is in the best interest of the Commonwealth that this particular nomination be recalled at this time," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune.*

Demapan said once the governor signs off on the recall letter, this communication will be transmitted to the Senate.

Fitial nominated Guerrero on May 14 to serve on the MPLT board representing Saipan. Guerrero is awaiting Senate confirmation. However, Guerrero has yet to submit required documents such as police clearance, drug test receipt/result, and statement of financial interest, to the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chair of the EAGI Committee, said yesterday that while Guerrero has not been proven guilty, it would be best if he could devote more time to the case filed against him.

"And I look forward to the governor's submission of another name not only for the MPLT board but also for other boards and commissions," Cruz said.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo allowed a property bond for Guerrero in lieu of the $25,750 cash bail the court earlier imposed.

Govendo also prohibited the 62-year-old suspect from leaving the CNMI without court permission.

The MPLT board has quorum, even without the appointment of Guerrero. However, Cruz said it will be best if boards and commissions such as that of MPLT will have enough members to avoid lacking quorums.

Immigration document fraud lands woman in prison

The federal court has imposed a four-month prison term and four-month home detention on a woman who was found guilty of immigration document fraud.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona placed Rowena Agnes Urumelog on three years' supervised release and required her to, among other conditions, pay a $100 court assessment fee.

Urumelog was allowed to remain free until a prison facility is designated for her. She was represented in the case by attorney Mark Hanson.

A federal jury found the 42-year-old Urumelog guilty of lying in her petition for her second husband, a Bangladeshi national, when she stated that she has never filed a similar petition before.

Last March, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph M. Camacho dismissed a criminal case filed against Urumelog, who, while drunk, allegedly assaulted a man at her residence in Garapan.

Camacho dismissed without prejudice the criminal case charging Urumelog with assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Dismissal without prejudice is when a case is dismissed but the government is allowed to re-file a new case on the same claim in the future.

Camacho dismissed the case after the Office of the Attorney General moved to drop the case as the alleged victim and the only other witness moved to Hawaii.

When the incident happened, Urumelog was still awaiting her sentencing in federal court for immigration document fraud. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

NEW BRANCH
Bank of Guam president and board chair Lou A. Leon Guerrero assists Fr. Celso Magbanua Jr. as he leads the blessing of Bank of Guam's Chalan Piao branch while vice president and CNMI regional manager Marcie M. Tomokane looks on during Tuesday's ceremony. The San Antonio branch of "The People's Bank" was moved to the new site, located on the ground floor of the Joeten Chalan Piao Plaza.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICERS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, fourth from left, Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja, third from left, and Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao, right, join six juvenile probation officers at the Division of Youth Services after they were sworn into office on Tuesday morning at Guma Hustisia in Susupe. They include Leonardo Ordonez, Missy Aldan, Alice Romolor, Sharmalynn Iginoif, Jaclyn T. Mendiola, and Quaid Ngirchongor.

Judge dismisses suit by ex-trustee of Hillbroom vs Vietnam-based lawyer

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The federal court dismissed yesterday the lawsuit filed by a former trustee of Junior Larry Hillbroom against Hillbroom's former lawyer Barry J. Israel, who is now based in Vietnam. Hillbroom is the reported DNA-proven son of the late business tycoon Larry Lee Hillblom.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted Israel's motion to dismiss Keith Waibel's cross-claims for lack of personal jurisdiction.

Manglona agreed with Israel that the court lacks specific jurisdiction over the lawyer on Waibel's cross claims because, first and foremost, Waibel was never a resident of the CNMI.

Moreover, Manglona said, Waibel's alleged involvement in the scheme to defraud Hillbroom did not begin until 1999, near the end of the CNMI Hillblom probate case.

The judge said that Waibel's role was to manage Hillbroom's money in the JLH Trust, which was approved by the Guam Guardianship Court and registered in the Cook Islands.

"Israel's alleged actions to coerce Waibel, a California resident, to support efforts to raise the contingency fee were not expressly aimed at this forum," Manglona noted in her order.

With the ruling, Manglona vacated the hearing on the motion to dismiss set for today, Thursday.

Hillbroom is suing his former lawyers, Israel and David J. Lujan, in district court for allegedly conspiring to inflate their contingency fee when Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings. He also named Waibel as co-defendant.

Waibel filed a cross-complaint (third-party complaint) against Israel and Lujan so that in the event he is found liable in Hillbroom's lawsuit, he could claim for indemnity and contribution from Israel and Lujan.

On Jan. 26, 2012, Manglona dismissed Hillbroom's lawsuit against Israel for lack of personal jurisdiction. The judge ruled that Hillbroom's lawsuit was filed in 2010, nine years after Israel moved away from the CNMI and ceased meaningful contacts with the forum.

"To make Israel answer in the CNMI today for any and all actions that arose long ago when he maintained substantial activities here, regardless of whether those actions were related to the forum, would not comport with the notions of 'fair play and substantial justice' that underpin personal jurisdiction," said Manglona in that order.

Last January, Manglona denied Lujan's motion to dismiss Waibel's cross-complaint filed against him,

Manglona ruled that Lujan's improper-venue defense is without merit.

Manglona said that Waibel's equitable claims of indemnity and contribution are not foreclosed because of his own alleged negligence.

Brilliant Star to host garage sale on Sunday

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Brilliant Star School will be holding a multi-family garage sale this Sunday, and school principal Richard Sikkel is inviting anyone who wants to sell their stuff to secure a booth at the event.

The multi-family garage sale will begin at 8am at the school grounds on Navy Hill next to the baseball field.

Sikkel said yesterday that Brilliant Star usually holds a multi-family garage sale in the beginning of the year but this one is an "impromptu" garage sale of current and former parents of their students "who are just trying to clear some space in the house or who are leaving island."

Those hunting for great bargains can check out the garage sale where items such as furniture, clothes, books, children's toys, and others will be available.

No food will be sold at the event.

To set up a booth, interested vendors will be asked to give a $20 donation that will be used to put on a fresh coat of paint for the school building over the summer, said Sikkel.

According to Sikkel, seven families have already secured a spot on Sunday's event but they can accommodate "as many vendors as our campus can hold."

"We would like to invite everyone to join us on Sunday at 8am on Navy Hill next to the baseball field," said Sikkel. "There will be lots of great items for sale for bargain prices."

For more information, visit Brilliant Star or call 323-7827.

Hospital still awaiting $2.6M for its 'immediate needs'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Hospital supplies, along with the salaries of Commonwealth Health Center employees for the next payroll, are again facing uncertainties following revelation by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board yesterday that no funding has been identified to meet these obligations.

CHC chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta and chief financial officer Alvaro Santos disclosed that the organization has yet to get an answer on the $2.6 million in "immediate" funds that they asked for from Gov. Benigno R. Fitial last week.

The $2.6 million "immediate funds" cover the six-week operation of the public hospital and include, among others, expenses for medical supplies and one-month worth of salary for employees.

According to Santos, the amount requested will be used during the assessment period of the CHC, which is expected to last six weeks.

The Executive Branch recently authorized the issuance of a request for proposals for the CHC assessment, with the goal of privatizing the public hospital.

Representatives of the Office of the Attorney General privately met with Babauta and CHC chair Joaquin Torres yesterday to discuss the result of the RFP that closed Monday.

Board member Anthony Raho expressed concern about the immediate survival of the hospital. "Are we going to survive in two to three months pending all this things?" he asked during yesterday's board meeting, citing the uncertainty of the $7 million line of credit bill that's now sitting on the governor's table.

Santos recommended that a follow-up be made with the governor on the status of both the $2.6 million "immediate funds" and the delay in the signing of the $7 million line of credit bill.

According to Babauta, the corporation generates an average of $800,000 monthly and is still drawing down from the $5 million seed capital provided to the corporation. But he admitted that the corporation cannot just sit around and wait and must beef up its internal collection services.

Revenue plan

The corporation board approved yesterday the revenue cycle management plan developed by Babauta as a means to beef up collections at CHC.

The board also approved the hiring of 23 more personnel for the new department, upon availability of funds.

The revenue cycle management plan was conceptualized following the contract termination of International Consulting Services.

Under the new plan, the corporation has to identify and hire a revenue cycle administrator who will directly oversee the functions of four important major sections: patient financial services, billings, collections, and medical records.

Ongoing crisis at hospital starting to worry MPLT

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

In the wake of the ongoing crisis at the public hospital, the Marianas Public Land Trust is starting to worry about the viability of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. to repay its existing $4.58 million line of credit with the Trust and the expected $7 million in additional funds that will be made available to it once legislation is enacted into law.

» Corporation's ability to repay loans a great concern

In a letter to corporation chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta on Monday, MPLT chair Pedro R. Deleon Guerrero specifically cited some major incidents at the corporation that are adding weight to their fears.

Of primary worry for the trustees, according to Deleon Guerrero, is the governor's second state of emergency declaration for Commonwealth Health Center and the request for proposal for an assessment of hospital operations, with the apparent goal of privatizing CHC.

This is in addition to the terminated contract of International Consulting Services, which was supposed to beef up the corporation's billing and collection services, and the recent exit of the corporation's chief operating officer, James Phillips, under less than ideal circumstances.

The MPLT board also learned from the Legislature that CHC owes its vendors for the dialysis center about $3 million, while its monthly collection averages only $1 million when its monthly operational expenses is about $2.1 million.

Further, CHC is asking the Legislature for an additional $10 million, citing $7 million in prior obligations in addition to $2.1 million in unpaid employer contributions.

"These give MPLT greater concerns as to CHC's viability and its operation as a 'going concern.' Thus, this current environment has diminished the relevance of the documentation and business plan that MPLT previously needed for its due diligence process," said Deleon Guerrero.

He pointed out that questions about the corporation's future existence makes any attempt to formulate assumptions or plans necessary for an achievable business plan "not meaningful."

MPLT released to the corporation $4.58 million in March this year, with $1.58 million of that amount set aside for the hospital's electronic health record project.

According to Deleon Guerrero, the uncertainties at CHC make it difficult for MPLT to perform an objective review as to whether CHC could reasonably service not only the existing obligation, but the full $11.58 million as originally contemplated.

Babauta promised yesterday to meet with the MPLT and the corporation board members to give them financial updates and other happenings at the corporation, including the establishment of a revenue cycle management unit that is being touted as a means to boost billing and collection services.

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NMC to host free Cash for College workshop on Saipan, Tinian

The Northern Marianas College and the College Access Challenge Grant program will be hosting free "Cash for College" workshops on Saipan and Tinian that are aimed at assisting students and their parents in maximizing scholarship opportunities that are available to students seeking to obtain a college education.

The first free workshop will be this Friday, June 8, 2012, at the NMC Tinian Instructional Site in Room D. This workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am and 1pm.

The next workshop will be on Saturday, June 16, 2012, on Saipan at the NMC As Terlaje campus in Building A. This workshop will also be an ongoing session from 9am to 3pm.

Participants will be provided with personal, step-by-step assistance in completing college financial aid forms, focusing especially on forms for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Aid, and the CNMI Scholarship. At the Tinian workshop, participants will also receive assistance on the Tinian Municipal Council Scholarship.

Staff members from the college's Office of Admissions and Records will also be present to provide information and assistance with the NMC application process.

The workshops will also give participants the opportunity to receive application fee and placement test fee waivers for the upcoming fall 2012 semester, which represents a savings of up to $75.

It is recommended that workshop participants bring a valid form of identification (e.g., a valid U.S. passport, copy of valid application for a U.S. passport, birth certificate, or green card), an official transcript from high school (at least three official copies), tax forms, and proof of CNMI residency for 2010 and 2011, including proof of continuing residency. Applicants for SHEFA should bring a valid U.S. passport, a voter registration card, and proof of vote cast.

For additional information, contact the NMC Financial Aid Office at 234-5498 Ext. 1526 or email daisym@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

Toilet flushers stolen from Guam national park

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Metal flushers from public bathrooms at a Guam national park have been stolen.

Park employees discovered the missing flushers Tuesday from both restrooms at Gaan Point, a World War II invasion beach that's part of the War in the Pacific National Historical Park.

The *Pacific Daily News* reports it's the second time in three months that burglars have targeted national parks toilets.

Park Superintendent Barbara Alberti says it seems the burglars have plumbing experience because of the way the flushers were detached from toilets.

A metal door and some bathroom piping were also taken.

Metal thefts are common on Guam, where stolen scrap is sold for cash.

NEW HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A participant in the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's credit card and currency training on Monday holds up a sample of the new $100 bill that will be issued soon. U.S. Secret Service special agent Glen Peterson urged participants not to rely on just one tool, such as a counterfeit money detector pen, but arm themselves with as much knowledge and other gadgets as possible.

MALAE

From Page 1

division, Water Task Force, the billing section, and even the Saipan Mayor's Office. He disclosed that leak detection, repair, and, most recently, a stepped-up effort to locate and eliminate water theft greatly helped their efforts.

Malae also reported that so far, the reduction in energy consumption for water and wastewater is about 10 percent—shy of a few points from the target 15 percent by November.

He said energy consumption is reduced by many methods, including installing floating aerators for the wastewater treatment plants, well isolation that reduces pumping and chlorination costs, lowering production through leak repairs, and theft control.

The single most important improvement that will equally realize both goals for water and wastewater is the reduction of water losses, or so called "non-revenue" water.

Malae estimated that about 70 percent of the water produced by CUC is non-revenue, which means only 30 percent of the water produced is billed. He said non-revenue water is a combination of three main causes: leaks, billing deficiencies, and theft.

He said that CUC has made tremendous progress in finding and repairing leaks this past year.

Next month, a major CUC-Water Task Force project in Papago will be completed, placing all Papago on 24-hour water service. Next to Chalan Lau Lau, Papago was the second largest of the remaining non-24 hour service areas.

Significant progress was also noted in CUC's billing efforts, replacing thousands of outdated meters with "smart meters" that result in actual, metered use. This is in addition to a new billing software that results in the elimination of inefficiencies in the system.

Malae also highlighted the large number of water theft cases that were referred to the Office of the Attorney General and prosecuted. CUC also helped repair and bring back online some agricultural wells and piping system that had fallen into disrepair. Kagman, he said, benefited from these efforts.

HR 1466

From Page 1

at this time, there has been no decision made on HR 1466 except progress," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

No immigration bill has moved in the 112th Congress except Sablan's HR 1466.

The three other groups covered in HR 1466 are CNMI permanent residents, those born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978, and the spouses, parents or children of U.S. citizens under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Members and leaders of workers' groups interviewed yesterday said they have heard about the status of HR 1466 from Sablan as early as last week, and what this bill's final form could be for it to move in Congress.

"I think that it's much better to have this bill pass the House without the fourth group rather than have the bill die and not help anyone at all," said one of the worker groups' leaders who asked that his name be withheld at this time.

Another worker group leader, Rene Reyes of the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd., hopes that the fourth group of people "will not be removed from the bill" because a lot of these people have pinned their hopes on this legislation.

"Like many others, they have contributed to this economy and have U.S. citizen children who have not known of any home other than the CNMI. HR 1466 is their only hope now because the Interior recommendations have not been acted on by Congress for years," Reyes said.

While he and others understand that HR 1466 and its authors are almost pinned to the wall just so the bill could help at least three groups of people, he said it would be a sad day for the fourth group when they are eventually removed from the bill.

This is an election year in the U.S. and the CNMI.

"I hope that if the fourth group is really going to be removed, Mr. Sablan will push for the Interior recommendations in Congress. Interior gave these recommendations to Congress in 2010, and it's been 2012 yet no one has taken action on it. Those who will be left out in HR 1466 could at least have something to hope for," Reyes added.

The U.S. Department of the Interior recommended to Congress to allow thousands of alien workers who have lawfully resided in the CNMI for at least five years to apply for long-term status under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The recommendations to Congress include outright grant of U.S. citizenship, permanent residency leading to citizenship, and a status similar to those granted to Freely Associated States citizens.

U.S. Public Law 110-220 or the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control gave Interior until May 10, 2010, to submit the report.

Leaders and members of different worker organizations in the CNMI will be meeting with Sablan tonight, starting at 6:30pm, at Minatchom Atdao in Susupe.

Sablan confirmed the meeting, saying he will give the organizations an update on the status of HR 1466, among other issues.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, in previous media interviews, pointed to the fourth group of people as the main reason for his opposition to HR 1466, but not to the three others, including those who were granted "CNMI permanent residents" status by the CNMI government.

PH charges ex-president Arroyo's husband

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine ombudsman has filed corruption charges against the former president's husband and more than a dozen police officers involved in the sale of two used helicopters he allegedly owned and passed off as new.

The charges filed Wednesday against Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, retired national police chief Jesus Verzosa and the others are part of President Benigno Aquino III's anti-corruption campaign. It follows the ouster of the Supreme Court's chief justice who Aquino says was an obstacle in his campaign.

Arroyo has denied he owned the choppers. Former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo has long denied corruption and claimed she is being persecuted.

The former president has been charged with electoral fraud and detained in a government hospital.

CNMI

From Page 1

up to their expectations," Vitug told *Saipan Tribune*.

Vitug, among the top 10 graduates of Marianas High School this year, was one of five students from public and private high schools to receive $2,000 each in scholarship from the Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

The other Chamber scholars were Amber Robets of Saipan International School, Angeline Sahagun also of MHS, Jessica Lee of Marianas Baptist Academy, and Elloise Lotoc of Kagman High School.

Vitug's family is just one of the many families in the CNMI that are struggling financially just to be able to provide a good education for their children.

Dr. Rita Sablan, commissioner of the Public School System, said it best when she told members and guests of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce that "the CNMI is particularly at a disadvantage" as the average income of families here range from $18,000 to $30,000 while two-year to four-year college education costs between $15,000 and $42,000.

"Needless to say, with these salaries, it is impossible to support a college student plus live in the Commonwealth with the high cost of living such as the infamous utility rates, rising cost of fuel, and continued rising cost of commodities," said Sablan, one of two guest speakers at the Chamber's general membership meeting at Saipan World Resort in Susupe yesterday.

The minimum wage in the CNMI is $5.05 an hour, barely enough to buy a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline.

Sablan acknowledged those like the Chamber for "reaching out to our students by offering them a college career seminar and the scholarship program" to help ease the burden on families.

She said the partnership that the Chamber has established years ago by offering a scholarship program for those from PSS and private schools "is a true reflection of your commitment to the children of the Commonwealth."

"We promise to continue our partnership by providing quality education and ensuring the success of our children so that when they complete their postsecondary education, they will return back and contribute to our island economy," she added.

Douglas Brennan, Chamber president, acknowledged the efforts of the members of the Chamber's Education Committee: Kanae Quinn, Jim Arenovski, and Vince Seman.

"There are so many bright young men and women out there to choose from, it is incredibly hard to narrow the field down to the final group," he said.

This year's Chamber scholars—Roberts, Sahagun, Lee, Lotoc, and Vitug—thanked the Chamber for granting them scholarship, their schools and teachers and their families for helping them reach their goals.

"This money will go a long way… No matter what I do, I'll come back to Saipan," Roberts said.

'Many will go to college'

The PSS commissioner, in her remarks before the Chamber, said that PSS is graduating some 550 students from the Class of 2012.

Of this number, Sablan said, their student exit survey indicates a high percentage of students going off to college—about 60 percent.

Sablan said at least 30 percent will join the U.S. Armed Forces, and a mere 10 percent have other options such as employment or undecided.

Sablan also reached out to Chamber members and guests to partner with PSS in the Service Learning and Student Mentoring programs.

Geri Willis of the CNMI National Apprenticeship Program, also a guest speaker at the Chamber meeting, talked about the more than a hundred jobs available in the private and public sectors on Saipan under the apprenticeship programs approved by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Judge rejects plea agreement for rob suspect as too lenient

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho rejected yesterday a proposed plea agreement that would have sent the Hollywood Video store robbery suspect to two years in prison without the possibility of parole.

Although the suspect, Benjamin Jones Castro Jr., has no prior criminal convictions, the severity of his action deserves greater punishment, Camacho said.

A female cashier was injured in the commission of the crime.

"Specifically, the court is concerned by the manner in which the defendant acted. With the victim's back turned, the defendant placed the victim in a chokehold and allegedly struck the victim in the jaw when she attempted to separate herself from the defendant," Camacho said.

A chokehold, he said, represents a lethal maneuver capable of suffocating and even breaking the victim's neck.

"In the court's view, such a maneuver is akin to using a weapon to perpetrate the crime," he added.

Camacho said the victim risked grave injury if she failed to comply with Castro's demands. "Such conduct amounts to a degree of violence that offends the court. The jail sentence under the proposed plea agreement would be two years, which fails to conform to the standards of this court and the CNMI community," he added.

Camacho set the jury trial for Oct. 22, 2012.

The 23-year-old female victim sustained moderate injuries in her right jaw when the 24-year-old Castro allegedly robbed Hollywood Video in San Jose on Feb. 24. The suspect reportedly took $379 cash from the shop's cash register.

The victim, however, managed to jot down the license plate of the suspect's getaway vehicle, enabling the police to identify him.

A few days later, Castro surrendered to police.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Castro with assault and battery, robbery, and theft. The charges carry a maximum sentence of 16 years and a fine of $16,000.

Castro and his counsel, chief public defender Adam Hardwicke, signed a plea agreement with the government. Assistant attorney general Darren Robinson appeared for the government.

Under the proposed agreement, Castro will plead guilty to robbery and will be sentenced to four years in prison, all suspended except for two years, with credit for time served but without the possibility of parole. This means that Castro would likely serve less than two years.

The OAG asserted, among other things, that this is appropriate since Castro will be imprisoned for two years without being paroled.

The OAG believes that two more years of probation, coupled with community service, fines, and immediate restitution to the victim will serve as an effective deterrent.

Camacho, however, disagreed with the OAG, saying the proposed plea agreement is disproportionate to the crime committed.

"The court is not persuaded that defendant's immediate acceptance of responsibility represents an act of contrition or remorse, although the court encourages defendants to do so. It could very well be motivated by a desire to cap the punishment," Camacho said.

Camacho is known for rejecting lenient plea agreements.

Dejillas brothers not guilty

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday acquitted of all charges two brothers accused of assaulting two persons who beat up their 70-year-old father.

In a bench trial that began Monday, Camacho found Ernie Matagolai Dejillas and Yonnie Matagolai Dejillas not guilty of assault and disturbing the peace.

Camacho noted a lot of inconsistencies in the testimony of the government's witnesses.

Assistant attorneys general Darren Robinson and Nicole Driscoll prosecuted the case.

Defense attorneys Joe Hill and Loren Sutton called the Dejillas brothers to the witness stand yesterday.

Yonnie Dejillas testified that when he arrived at the scene, he learned that his father had accidentally struck a girl while driving in Dandan. Yonnie Dejillas said he apologized on behalf of his father to the parents and relatives of the girl.

He said Jerome Norita and his father, Juan Norita, came up to him so he asked them who were behind the beating of his father.

Yonnie Dejillas said that Jerome Norita suddenly ran away without explanation so he chased him, but later stopped after failing to catch him.

He said while he was attending to his father, he heard the sound of breaking hollow blocks.

Yonnie Dejillas said that Juan Norita tried to hit his brother, Ernie Dejillas, with a piece of hollow block but his brother managed to dodge.

Yonnie Dejillas said he got into his car and drove it to shield his brother from the hollow blocks being thrown at him.

The defendant denied trying to hit Juan Norita with his car.

On Tuesday, the defendants' 70-year-old father, Pantaleon Dejillas, took the witness stand shortly after associate judge Camacho dismissed the disturbing the peace charges filed against the defendants. Pantaleon Dejillas was limping as he walked toward the witness stand.

Pantaleon Dejillas recalled that he was driving his pickup truck in Dandan on his way home at about 7am on Dec. 2, 2011, when a girl suddenly crossed the road. He said he stepped on the brake but still hit the girl.

"I got down to check the girl if she was okay," he said, adding that the girl responded when he asked her if she was fine.

The old man said that somebody suddenly punched him on the left jaw and learned it was Jerome Norita.

Pantaleon Dejillas said he fell down after Juan Norita, Jerome's father, kicked him.

Pantaleon Dejillas said he then saw Alfred Kaipat cross the road and kick him in the ribs.

"They're treating me like a football," the old man said.

Police said the Dejillas brothers arrived at the scene and attacked Juan and Jerome Norita.

Last month, Jerome and Juan Norita pleaded guilty to assault and battery. Presiding Judge Robert Naraja sentenced Jerome Norita to 30 days in jail and Juan Norita to 12 days in prison. Jerome Norita testified on Tuesday.

Pantaleon Dejillas is turning 71 next month. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Another person arrested for alleged sexual abuse of a girl

Police arrested Tuesday a 33-year-old man who has allegedly been sexually abusing a minor since last year when she was just 15 years old.

James Patrick Aldan was taken to the Superior Court yesterday afternoon for a Gerstein hearing, a proceeding when the arrest of a suspect is done without an arrest warrant.

Assistant attorney general James McAllister called to the witness stand police detective Nicholas Deleon Guerrero, who narrated to the court the circumstances leading to Aldan's arrest. Deleon Guerrero cited two incidents that occurred inside two houses in August 2011 and in March 2012.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho found probable cause to continue to detain Aldan on charges of indecent exposure, two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

Camacho did not find probable cause as to the charge of attempted sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Two missing mariners found; en route to Chuuk

APRA HARBOR, Guam—At 2pm yesterday, an overdue skiff was located with both mariners alive onboard about 60 nautical miles northwest of Chuuk Island. A U.S. Marine Corps Super Hercules aircraft from Marine Aircraft Group 12 spotted the skiff while conducting the search in coordination with Coast Guard Sector Guam. The aircrew and other Marines who located the missing mariners volunteered for the search.

A life raft containing an aviation radio, food, water, flares and signaling devices was dropped next to the skiff, while the mariners waited for a rescue vessel to arrive.

At 4:40pm, M/V *Solar Africa* arrived on scene and took the mariners onboard. *Solar Africa*, a 623-foot bulk carrier flying the Liberian flag was spotted by the Marine aircrew during the search, and diverted as a vessel of opportunity to assist the mariners on the drifting skiff. A Chuukese fishing vessel is currently en route to transport the stranded mariners from *Solar Africa* to Chuuk Island.

At 3:17pm on Tuesday, Coast Guard Sector Guam received a report from Federated States of Micronesia that a 23-foot skiff with two persons onboard was overdue from Nomwin Atoll to Weno, Chuuk Island. The two men, ages 24 and 32, departed Sunday morning and were expected to complete their 69-mile trip that evening.

Vessels of opportunity are a force multiplier for the Coast Guard and other maritime agencies, providing assistance when other suitable vessels are unavailable or at great distances from where waterborne support is needed. ***(USCG)***

PNG fisher rewarded for recovering 50,000th tuna tag

A Papua New Guinean fisher has won $500 for recovering a plastic tag that was attached to the back of a yellowfin tuna.

The fish was tagged and released by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community on May 15, 2011, and is the 50,000th tag to be returned to SPC.

Johnathan Joul from Kananam village, near Madang, spotted the yellow tag on the back of the yellowfin on board the *Dolores 828*, about 140 miles from where the fish had been released in the Bismarck Sea.

"Recovering the tags is crucial to the success of our tagging program," said John Hampton,SPC's Oceanic Fisheries Program Manager, "so we offer cash rewards to fishers as an incentive to return the tags to us."

The 50,000th tag came with a special reward of $500 to celebrate the milestone.

The objective of tagging is to establish an "experimental" population of tuna that can then be monitored and modeled as the tagged fish are recaptured.

SPC has been tagging tuna since the 1970s to collect critical information for assessing tuna stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, the world's biggest tuna fishery.

Its Pacific Tuna Tagging program is an initiative of the Pacific Island community to ensure the best information is available to manage their oceanic ecosystems.

Tagging is currently focused in Papua New Guinean waters and is fully funded by the PNG government.

With more than 300,000 tuna now tagged, the program is generating the most comprehensive data set for tuna management in the world.

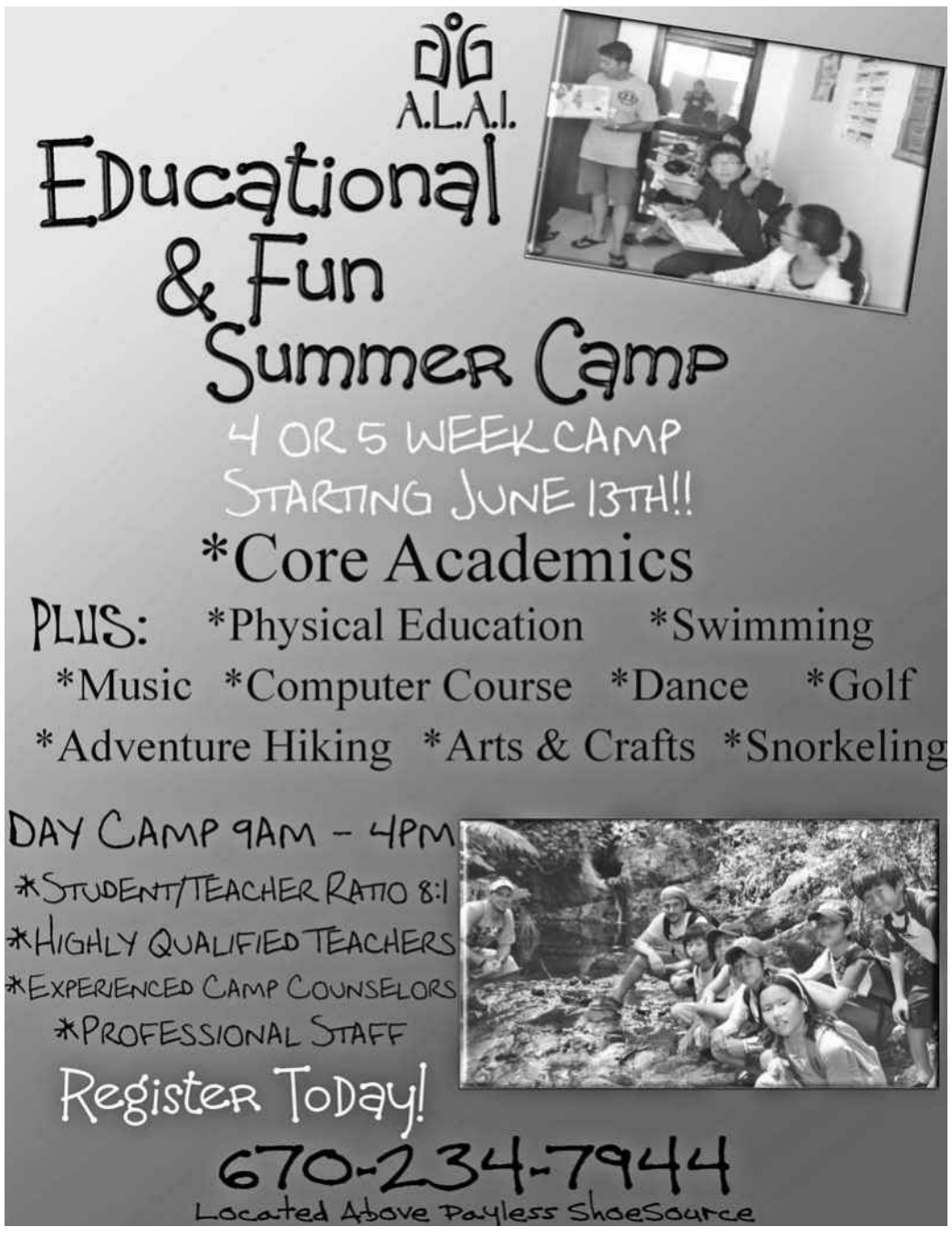
"Tuna is hugely important to the region," said John Hampton. "Many Pacific Island countries and territories rely heavily on it for income through fishing licenses. Local people rely on it for their livelihoods. We need to know how much tuna is out there and whether the amount of fishing is sustainable."

Yellowfin is one of the four tuna species mainly targeted by fishers in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean fishery; the others are bigeye, skipjack, and south Pacific albacore.

SPC estimates the 2010 catch for all four species at 2.4 million tons, the second highest annual catch on record. That's 83 percent of the total Pacific Ocean catch and 60 percent of the global tuna catch.

Bigeye represents just 5 percent of the total tuna catch but the species is being overfished, according to SPC's 2010 stock assessment, released in January.

"Bigeye tuna is not at risk of extinction, and is never likely to be," says John Hampton, "but the amount of bigeye fishing needs to be reduced by about one third to ensure long-term sustainability." ***(SPC)***



Zoning OKs church operation in CK

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Zoning board approved Monday a conditional use application for the operation of a church on a residential property in Chalan Kanoa.

Luisito Baltazar of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. is now permitted to operate Blessed Temple Christian Fellowship on a residential lot located along Chalan Kanoa Drive. The area is zoned as village residential.

Board chair Diego Blanco, vice chair Joe Limes, secretary Ed Arriola, and member Herman Sablan voted to approve the application after the Zoning Office gave its recommendation to the board. Board treasurer Alice Igitol was absent.

Zoning administrator Therese T. Ogumoro said in her presentation that the applicant proposes seven ADA-compliant parking stalls in front of the property, with three to four more parking stalls on the right side of the building. The applicant also has an agreement with an adjacent property owner for seven more parking stalls.

The applicant, who was off-island during the public hearing, was represented by Manuel Cisnero who came with three other members of the Blessed Temple Christian Fellowship.

Cisnero disclosed that their church has a congregation of less than 50. The members, he said, are usually picked up by a church vehicle to attend any fellowship.

Janice Tenorio, who owns the property leased for the church's use, also arrived with her husband in support of the application approval. She said she is leasing out the property on a year-to-year basis.

According to Tenorio, she knew before leasing out the property that it will be used to conduct church services. "I went down to my neighbors toward the south end and around and they have no problems having a church there," Tenorio told the board.

Tenorio noted that she reminded the church officers and pastors to "respect" and "be mindful" of their church hours given that there are other residents in the area and that the property is also in proximity to another church, the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

The approval comes with six conditions. The church should not park vehicles along public streets on the side or front of the proposed project at any time; landscaping maintenance of the property; apply for a sign permit with the Zoning Office before installing any signs; post "entrance" and "exit" signs for directional and safety purposes, with the exit gate not less than 14 feet wide; and should screen any trash bins from public view.

SVES students help keep Laolao Bay litter-free

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sixth graders from San Vicente Elementary School will take part in efforts to protect Laolao Bay.

A total of 120 students will volunteer for the Our Laolao Campaign, which emphasizes the importance of keeping Laolao Bay litter-free on land and sea.

Our Laolao Campaign is a collaborative effort of the Coastal Resources Management, Division of Environmental Quality, Division of Fish & Wildlife, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, & SeaWeb.

"The goal of the Our Laolao Campaign is to empower community members to speak about why they want to protect Laolao Bay," said Jose Quan. "Their stories in turn inspire other users to help keep Laolao Bay litter-free."

The young volunteers, who were inspired by the campaign's message, have taken part in a two-day cleanup beginning yesterday from 8am to 11am.

The group is focusing on clearing the main road into Laolao Bay of trash and other harmful debris.

Quan added that Our Laolao Campaign also shines a light on the rich cultural and environmental value of the bay and what community members can do to protect it.

Like many places on Saipan, Laolao Bay reefs and forests are under environmental threat because of critical issues such as sedimentation, invasive species, and habitat loss.

In 2007, Laolao Bay was designated as the focus of the CNMI's efforts to restore marine and terrestrial environments, given its environmental and cultural value and its increasing degradation. These efforts can only be successful, however, if community members "lead the way." They can be empowered through various initiatives that protect the island's natural resources, including Laolao Bay.

Quan encouraged other community members to join the San Vicente sixth graders in the cleanup, which ends today.

For ways to get involved in the campaign or for more information, visit www.ourlaolao.com.

Possible beneficiaries of Prior Service benefits

The following individuals or their surviving spouse may be eligible for Prior Service Benefits. If you or your deceased spouse's name is listed below and you worked for the U.S. Navy or Trust Territory government for five or more years before July 1, 1968, call the Prior Service Office at 322-9753 only on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 8am and 12pm. If your name is listed below and you are still working for the government or private sector, do not call until you retire.

Ada, Maria C
Agulto, Herminia P
Arriola, Theresita B
Ayuyu, Andres A
Borja, Fernando Castro
Borja, Ramon Santos
Cabrera, Jesus C
Cabrera, Lorenzo DLG
Cabrera, Sebastian Mendiola
Calvo, Julian S
Camacho, Antonio S
Camacho, Augustine B
Camacho, Bernardino Duenas
Camacho, Carlos S
Camacho, Dolores Benavente
Camacho, Elphidia P
Camacho, Jose Roberto
Castro, Jesus C
Castro, Jesus L
Castro, Ramon
Cepeda, Felix A
Cruz, Ignacio Pangelinan
Cruz, Jesus
Cruz, Josefa C
Cruz, Juana A
Dela Cruz, Ignacio
Dela Cruz, Jesus R
Dela Cruz, Jose Masga
Dela Cruz, Jose Reyes
Delos Reyes, Jesus Borja
Demapan, Pedro Borja
Fitial, Felix R
Guerrero, Jose C
Guerrero, Paulino
Iglecias, Anselmo M
Lifoifoi, Jose R
Lizama, Antonio T
Lizama, Francisco C
Manglona, Vicente M
Masga, Mateo
Muna, Isidro A
Muna, Maria P
Muna, Moises
Omang, Dembei (Umang)
Pangelinan, Hermina
Pangelinan, Juan N
Reyes, Alfonso
Reyes, Francisco T
Reyes, Victor Tudela
Sablan, Francisco G
Sablan, Gregorio S
Sablan, Herman S
Sablan, Jesus D
Sablan, Joaquin T
Sablan, Juan T
Sablan, Nicolas T
Sablan, Pedro
Sablan, Pedro O
Salas, Carlos Concepcion
Salas, Jesus Taitano
Santos, Ronaldo M
Santos, Vicente Torres
Sasamoto, Jose
Somorang, Ambrocio
Takai, Antonio D
Tenorio, Rita
Teregeyo, Vicente M
Torres, Francisca A
Toves, Leonardo
Toves, Luis
Toves, Rita S
Tsuchiyama, Maria S
Villagomez, Raphael G
Wesley, Margarita C

Inos: Close off Fund's DB plan, but no liquidation

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos assured Tuesday that there will be no liquidation when the NMI Retirement Fund is transferred under the Department of Finance, sharing more specific details about the Fitial administration's plan that includes "closing off" the Fund's defined benefit plan to new members, concurrent with the Social Security buy-in, among other things.

"That's just a function of transfer. So why would there be liquidation?" Inos told reporters after he swore into office six Division of Youth Services juvenile probation officers at Guma Hustisia in Susupe Tuesday morning.

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez earlier told the media that dissolving the Fund board and transferring the Fund's functions to Finance means the pension program will be liquidated and benefits will end.

Inos said the administration's plan is "still being fully developed," and its details may still change as the development process continues.

This plan will be in the governor's executive order that would place the Fund under a state of emergency.

"The bottom line is, if our plan succeeds, that is we close the DB plan, there will be no more new retirees. So what do we do? What does Retirement [Fund] do? We just cut checks every month, and what function is that? That's a disbursement function. So what is liquidation?" Inos asked.

Inos said Finance will continue to have Fund investment assets managed by money managers, as is the current practice.

"Right now they [Fund] don't manage the fund. They hire people, so why can't the Finance Department hire the same people?" he added.

He said the Fund will become one of the divisions under Finance, to be headed by a director. Personnel details are still being worked out, including determining how many of the current Fund employees will be retained.

Inos, a former Finance secretary, said the administration hopes that the Fund will not continue to incur legal expenses, referring to a possible filing of an appeal of the federal court's decision to dismiss the Fund's Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing.

"One of our concerns here is that out of the current situation the Fund will continue to incur legal expenses to appeal, to file motions, stuff like that, and that is one of the driving forces for bringing it into the Executive Branch so we can control that part," he said.

He said the government will continue to make sure the retirees receive their pension.

As for the expertise needed that the Fund administrator had mentioned such as those for document management, accounting systems, data processing and file maintenance, Inos said this: "Finance has been handling hundreds of millions of dollars a year for operations fund, capital development fund, so forth and so on."

"If our plan succeeds, it's only going to be two functions. One is the payment of the pensions. In fact most of them are paid through ACH [automated clearinghouse]. The other one is managing the investments and make sure that Treasury, every semi-monthly, we need to disburse $5 million, so withdraw the $5 million down and put it in the pension disbursement fund and [issue] checks. What else is there to do? We don't need to review the eligibility of any more individuals because no more new retirees," he said.

New program trains US workers on the job

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Education specialist Geri Willis of the Northern Marianas College's CNMI National Apprenticeship Center office announced yesterday a recently approved program aimed at training U.S. workers while on the job.

The Apprenticeship Training is a program that allows apprentices to "earn while they learn" and get on-the-job training provided by employers, along with trade-related classroom instruction offered at NMC or other educational, training institutions.

A collaborative effort between NMC and the Workforce Investment Agency, the program is open to apprentices who are U.S. citizens or legal residents of the CNMI, at least 16 years old, and are employed.

The program would require apprentices to undergo training, the length of which varies from 2 to 4 years depending on the skilled occupation involved. Recognized occupations range from aircraft mechanic and dental laboratory technician to paralegal and solderer.

Apprentices are also obligated to attend 144 hours of classroom instruction per year in their chosen occupation.

Employers will be the one to pay the salaries of these apprentices.

Education specialist Geri Willis of the Northern Marianas College's CNMI National Apprenticeship Center office speaks about the Apprenticeship Training program to members of the Saipan Rotary Club on Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. CLARISSA V. DAVID

What makes this program "really unique" is that it is "employer-driven," said Willis, guest speaker at Tuesday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting.

Willis said she got from the U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Apprenticeship Office the approval to implement the program about two weeks ago.

According to Willis, the Apprenticeship Training would aid employers to transition CW worker-held positions to the local workforce.

She disclosed that the CNMI National Apprenticeship Center Office, through NMC, applied for a $1.3 million funding to subsidize the classwork training for the apprentices. The funding, Willis said, will come from the $150 fee paid by employers that applied for CW status for their foreign workers.

"It's an executive decision," said Willis when asked who will approve the funding application.

Should the funding be denied, Willis said most of the businesses will have to shoulder the training fees.

Even without the approved funding, Willis noted that NMC will push through with the program as it already put in $200,000 for its startup.

Since apprentices will be certified by the U.S. Department of Labor, Willis also said that the employers can ask the apprentices to stay with their employers for a given period of employment tenure.

"Now is the time for apprenticeship," emphasized Willis. "It's on the job, it's employer-driven, and it's something that would build our economy."

According to Willis, employers have already approached her for assistance to fill in 118 available slots to be filled in. She said they would ramp up marketing efforts through newspaper announcements to further promote the program.

For more information, visit the CNMI National Apprenticeship Center Office at NMC Bldg. P or call 234-5498 ext. 1028.

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NMC

Students in the Saipan Southern High School Nursing Assistantship program pose for a group photo with instructor Douglas Miller, far left, and CNMI Area Health Education Center program coordinator Orrin Pharmin, far right, after receiving a donation of blood pressure meters and stethoscopes from CNMI AHEC.

NMC program gives medical devices to SSHS nursing assistant students

The CNMI Area Health Education Center at the Northern Marianas College recently donated $1,000 worth of blood pressure meters and stethoscopes to the Saipan Southern High School Nursing Assistantship program.

The medical devices were given to students to allow them to perform basic nursing care skills within the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and other health care-related areas. Students who complete the Nursing Assistantship Program will be able to keep these medical devices for future use.

"In addition to equipping the students in the SSHS Nursing Assistantship Program to carry out their tasks and duties, we hope that the medical supplies we've donated will help them when they choose to continue their studies," said CNMI AHEC program coordinator Orrin Pharmin

The SSHS Nursing Assistantship Program is a secondary career technical education program for students interested in pursuing a career in the field of nursing. The two-year program provides students with the opportunity to become a nursing assistant and to take steps toward becoming a nurse.

CNMI AHEC at NMC has been providing technical assistance along with other organizations in the community, such as the Workforce Investment Agency, the CNMI Public School System and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., to the SSHS Nursing Assistantship Program since it was first started as a pilot project in 2009.

The CNMI AHEC is a program under the NMC Community Development Institute that aims to improve the health of people in the CNMI through education. ***(NMC)***

Registration for NMC's regular summer session begins June 11

Registration for the Northern Marianas College's upcoming regular summer session will begin on Monday, June 11, 2012, and will continue until Wednesday, June 13, 2012. NMC's regular summer session will run from June 14 to Aug. 10, 2012.

This eight-week semester is ideal for students who need one or two courses to graduate, or for new and ongoing students who want to lighten their academic load during upcoming semesters. This is also ideal for college students from the U.S. mainland who are visiting the CNMI for the summer and want to complete some courses before returning.

New students are must take the placement tests before they register. The schedule for the placement tests and the summer 2012 class schedule can be found online at www.nmcnet.edu.

Those who have not applied for admission can still do so by visiting the College's Office of Admissions and Records and picking up an application form. Application forms can also be downloaded from the NMC website.

Application for admissions will be accepted until the last day of registration provided that placement tests have been taken.

There is a $25 fee for each of the placement tests that must be paid in advance at the NMC Cashier (Monday-Friday, 8:30am - 4pm). Students who have a fee waiver must obtain a placement test slip from the Office of Admissions and Records prior to taking the test. More information on the placement tests can be found online at www.nmcnet.edu.

For more information, contact OAR at 234-5498 Ext. 1537 or email oar@nmcnet.edu, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

IMPORTANT DATES

June 11-13: Registration for Regular Summer Session
June 14: First Day of Classes for Regular Summer Session
July 4: Liberation Day – Legal Holiday
Aug. 9: Last Day of Classes
Aug. 10: Final Exams
Aug. 13: Grades Due

English Placement Test Schedule
June 4-7: 9am – 4pm, Building M
June 8: 9am – 2pm, Building M

Math Placement Test Schedule
June 11: 10am – 12pm, Room A-9
June 12: 10am – 12pm, Room A-9

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Juan L. Babauta on *Marianas Agupa*

This Saturday, June 9, 2012, *Marianas Agupa* will feature Juan L. Babauta from the Commonwealth Cancer Association to talk about the 2012 CNMI National Cancer Survivors Week in collaboration with CHCC's NCD Healthy Lifestyle Promotion Program. The show is from 9am to 11am on Magic 100.3 FM. Listeners on Saipan, Tinian and Rota and those listening via streaming are encouraged to call in and ask questions during the show (Direct to studio at 234-5929 or use instant messaging via Marianas Agupa's Facebook account.

The Chamorro radio talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona and features reports by former mayor Joseph S. Inos, Rota correspondent Thomas D. Mendiola, Tinian correspondent David M. Cing, and a special segment called Hafa Mohon with Juanita Mendiola. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. ***(PR)***

Tanapag Elementary School activities

- June 8: End of the Year Awards ceremony 8:30am on school campus
- June 11: 4th Quarter report cards and awards certificates to be sent home with students
- June 12: Last day of classes.

For more information, contact the main office at 664-3425/26/27. ***(PR)***

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SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 09, 2012 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2011/2012 90HP OUTBOARD MOTOR ENGINES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – BOATING SAFETY SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

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/S/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
ACTING COMMISIONER, DPS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB12-DPS/RBS-083

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 09, 2012 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

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/S/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
ACTING COMMISIONER, DPS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 7, 2000

Kumoi to Tinian, Rota senators: Give up $60K allowance

Keeping a tight watch on his colleagues' expenditures, Sen. Ramon S. Guerrero yesterday prodded senators from Rota and Tinian to give up the $60,000 subsistence allowance each of them receives annually for holding office on Saipan. He said that such funding, although approved by the full body in a Senate resolution, should be presented before the public to allow them to decide whether it is necessary. Scrapping the allowance could help the government cut costs, providing additional resources to critical programs like education and health, Mr. Guerrero wrote in a four-page letter to Senate President Paul A. Manglona.

AGO: House bills on NMIRF violate constitution

The Attorney General's Office has warned the House of Representatives against the passage of two proposed measures affecting the CNMI Retirement Fund which violate the Commonwealth Constitution. Assistant Attorney General Elliot A. Sattler has conducted an analysis on House Bill 12-126 which will allow the conversion of unpaid salary to Retirement Fund vesting service, as well as HB 12-070 which will provide Fund loans for emergency purposes. According to Mr. Sattler, the grant of emergency loans to members appears to be contrary to the Constitution and the investment guidelines of the Commonwealth statute.

Jun. 7, 2001

If he runs: Kumoi has to resign Senate seat

Sen. Ramon S. Guerrero will have to resign his current post if he accepts the invitation to run as Jesus R. Sablan's running mate in the November elections. It seems only Guerrero will be affected by a constitutional provision citing the necessity of officials seeking higher offices to resign upon filing their certificate of candidacy. The CNMI Constitution says that any elected public official shall resign from office upon certification as a candidate for another public office if the term of office sought begins before the end of the term of the office held.

Manglona scorns teacher reduction

Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona has appealed to the Public School System to abandon plans to cut Rota's share of teaching staff, warning it would be detrimental to student achievement. Manglona, in a letter addressed to Education Commissioner Dr. Rita H. Inos, aired his opposition over what he termed as discrimination on the part of PSS to deprive Rota's children the ample number of teachers the students are entitled to. "Such reduction policy would mean hardship, discrimination, threat to accreditation, and reduction in the quality of education in Rota," said the mayor.

Jun. 7, 2002

L&M Enterprises: A business borne out of gusto

Childless for eight long years since they got married, Lito and Malou Mendoza had an intense desire to have kids. Consequently, Lito, an architect, did not allow his wife to work as a nurse. To keep the housewife busy, the couple decided to put up a business from her hobby of preparing longanisa and tocino meat products, that eventually gave birth to several businesses that expanded to landscaping, construction and insurance. After the birth of the L & M Enterprises in 1987, the Mendoza couple was blessed with children shortly after. Krizia, now an incoming 10th grader on Saipan, and Chandelle, an incoming 6th grader, have been the continuing inspiration of the Mendoza couple as they continue to conquer other markets such as Guam, and possibly tap their native homeland, the Philippines, for expanding business operations further.

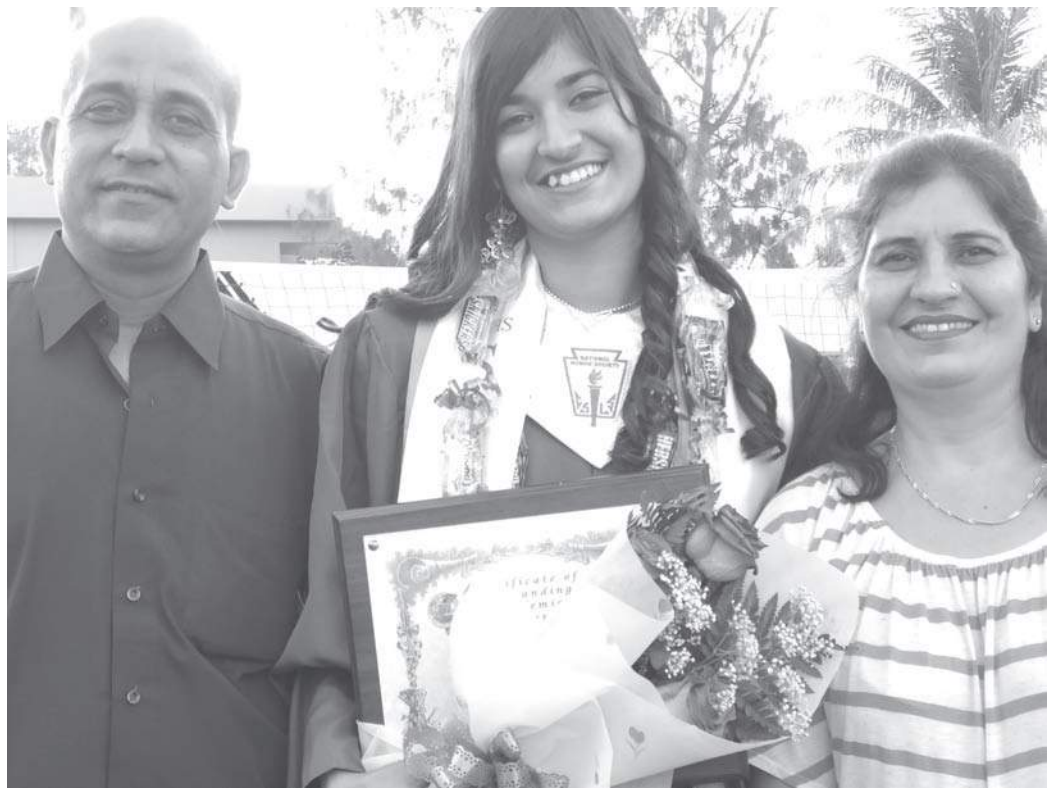
AGO slaps woman with child neglect lawsuit

A 22-year-old mother of three is facing three-count charges of child neglect amid complaints that she failed to provide adequate supervision, medical care, food, clothing and shelter for her children. The Attorney General's Office, through prosecutor Antonette R. Villagomez, filed the charges against Delora Taman Hossuin, a resident of Susupe. In a court complaint docketed at the Superior Court, Villagomez alleged that Hossuin's negligence threatened her three children's physical and mental well-being. The defendant has been summoned to make a court appearance on June 24 with respect to the charges. According to reports compiled by the Department of Public Safety, Hossuin has a history of leaving her minor children unattended.

Island Snapshots

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR
Superior Court Judge Joseph N. Camacho, right, poses for a photo with Northern Marianas College Alumni Association President Jack Kiyoshi after receiving the NMC Alumnus of the Year Award for 2012. Camacho graduated from NMC with his associate's degree in liberal arts and went on to pursue his other degrees, including his juris doctorate degree, in the U.S. mainland.

NMC



CONGRATULATIONS!
Congratulations to Riya Nathrani for graduating from Marianas High School, ranking third in her class and receiving the Mayor's Community Service Award and other honors on June 4, 2012! We are very proud of you and your accomplishments. We love you. Greetings come from Mommy, Papa, Marjorie, Jonavelle, and Mrs. Cuerdo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY GIRL
Annabel Ashlyn Reyes Kiyoshi, second from right, celebrated her fifth birthday on May 29, 2012, at the JC Cafe on Tinian. She is shown here with, from left, Dad Ignacio P. Kiyoshi, Grandma Magdalena Shai Reyes, and Mom Isabel "Becky" Reyes Kiyoshi.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FIRST COMMUNICANTS
From left, first communicants Chit Alain Acollador, Emiliana Anastasia Famaw King, and Greian Vergara had their first communion on May 19, 2012, at the San Jose Parish Church on Tinian. They later celebrated with their families at the JC Café.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT
Happy 19th birthday to Stevie A. Cabrera, who is celebrating his birthday today, June 7. May God bless you and hope your special day brings you all that your heart desires! Wishing you a day full of pleasant surprises. Greetings come from Mom, Dad, Gedin, and the entire Cabrera family and friends.

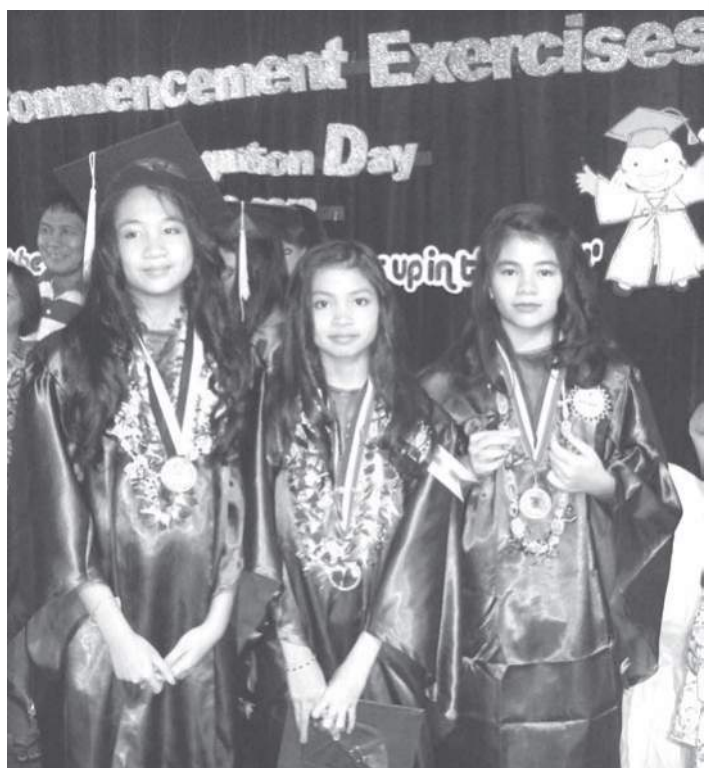
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

REUNION
Marcia Ayuyu has her picture taken with her son, Joe Ayuyu Jr., during her last visit with her son in Cincinnati, Ohio. Joe Ayuyu Jr. is studying at the Miami University.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GOOD JOB!
Congratulations to Karen Fajardo (Valedictorian, 8th grade), Kristine Fajardo (first honor, 6th grade) and Avelyne A. Alvarez (second honor, 6th grade) on your graduation day last Saturday from SAEF School. Wishing you three all the luck and success in life. We are so proud of you all.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

One nation, divisible

The late David Lawrence, who practically invented the Washington political column, developed a widely accepted rule of thumb covering every U.S. president from Woodrow Wilson to Richard M. Nixon:

Absent a major overriding concern such as a war, presidential elections are decided largely on "pocketbook" issues. That is, which candidate do most voters feel will better improve their personal economic situations.

The word "feel" is an important part of the Lawrence Rule. Do voters feel contented or discontented? Feelings are about emotions, not necessarily about facts. Facts are hard. Emotions are easy.

Politicians in both parties know and understand the Lawrence Rule, which is why, in its early stages, the race between President Barack Obama and his putative Republican challenger Mitt Romney is focused sharply on pocketbook issues.

With unemployment remaining high and recovery from the 2007-2009 recession still tenuous, Romney misses few occasions to lay the blame at Obama's feet. In a May 23 interview with Time magazine, Romney said, "He just doesn't have a clue what to do to get this economy going. I do."

The Obama campaign, in return, misses few chances to tie Romney to the disastrous Republican economic policies over the last 30 years. Last week, David Axelrod, the president's political strategist, attacked Romney's record as governor of Massachusetts between 2003 and 2007. "(W)hen it comes to Mitt Romney and his economic philosophy the facts are clear—it didn't work then, and it won't work now," Axelrod wrote.

Voters will be sick of this by November, if they aren't already. The diligent will do their homework; many of the rest will rely on their feelings.

This helps explain the results of a Washington Post/ABC News poll published May 24. Middle-class white voters who acknowledge that they are struggling to maintain their financial positions—as good a definition of pocketbook issues as there is—preferred Romney 58 percent to 32 percent. Seven in 10 of these voters lacked a college diploma; 31 percent described themselves as Republicans, 27 percent as Democrats.

The temptation is to regard these people as what political operatives call "low-information voters," a nice way of saying "clueless." To think that Romney, a beneficiary of and advocate for the same economic policies that brought on the great recession and record income inequality, can fix the economy is to think O.J. Simpson can find the real killers.

But these middle-class voters, particularly those with less ability to compete in the "knowledge economy," are smart enough to know that something is dreadfully wrong and Barack Obama is the guy in charge. They may be motivated by social issues like abortion or traditional marriage. Whatever the reason, they are the very definition of "discontented."

Fortunately for Obama, he no longer has to win a majority of them to win an election. The new Democratic coalition, according to an analysis by the Center for American Progress, is well-educated, socially liberal whites and working-class blacks and Hispanics. Obama needs only to hold Romney's edge among white working-class voters to 12 or 15 points.

If this is true, then maybe the Lawrence Rule needs a new coda: In today's divided America, it's not just the pocketbook that's important, but the color and education of the person holding the pocketbook.

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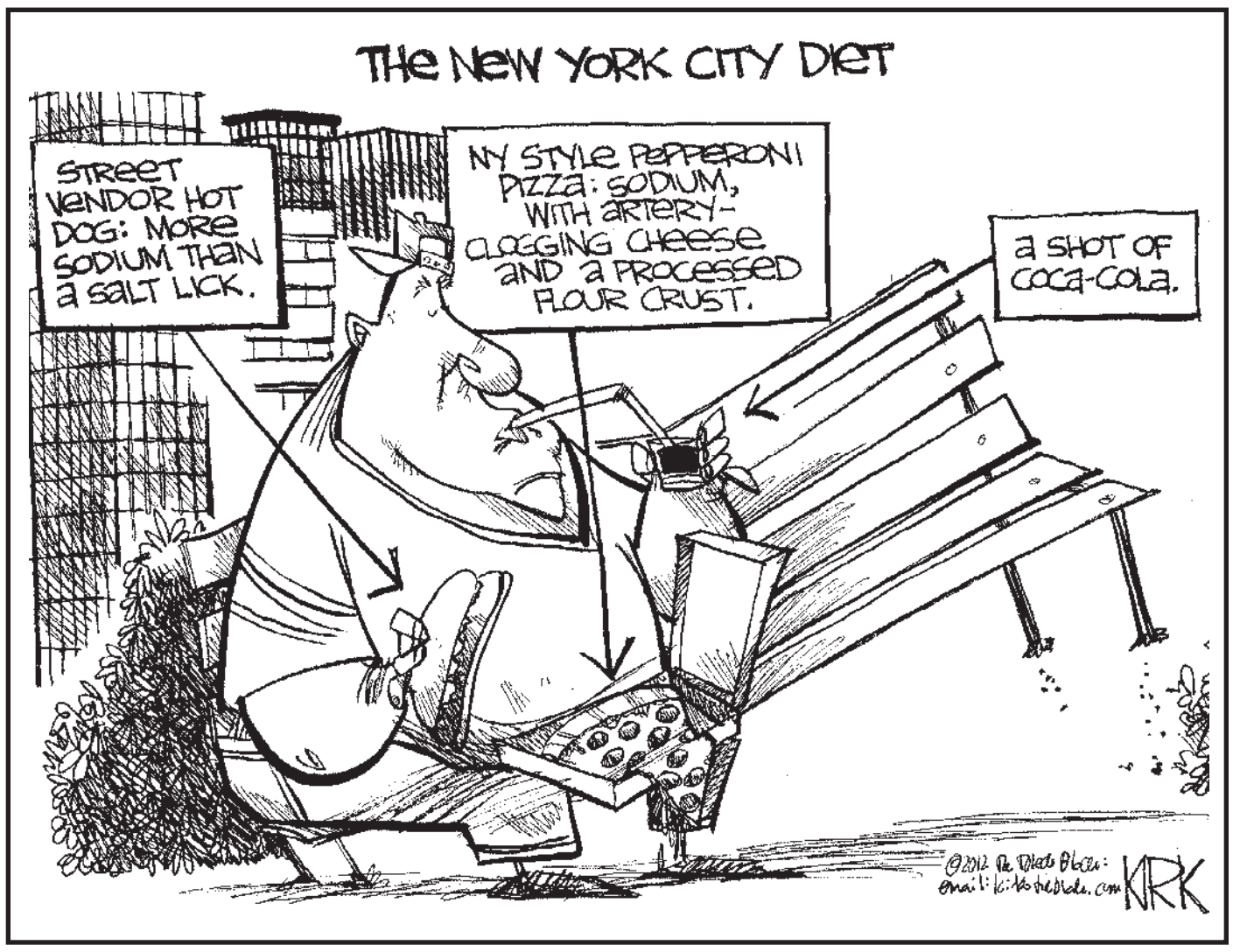
THE NEW YORK CITY DIET
STREET VENDOR HOT DOG: MORE SODIUM THAN A SALT LICK.
NY STYLE PEPPERONI PIZZA: SODIUM, WITH ARTERY-CLOGGING CHEESE AND A PROCESSED FLOUR CRUST.
A SHOT OF COCA-COLA.
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American GREEN

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

The last time I looked, the Benjamin is still colored green. The fact that I keep a non-interest bearing Franklin instead of a Hamilton in my wallet, reserved for emergencies, reflects the state of the greenback. I remember when one GW was equivalent to 2 Philippine pesos and 360 ¥en. The peso depreciated and the ¥en appreciated. Now the Chinese ¥uan is forcibly appreciating against the U.S. dollar, taking cover by encouraging direct exchange of native currencies among its trading partners.

Coffee at the Incheon International Airport costs me less by paying in renminbi rather than the green. Four hundred Korean won was equal to the U.S. dollar when I visited South Korea in 1972. Before that, the money series reached 6,000 won to the dollar so it was abandoned. The rate today stands at 1,180 won, at par to the global value of the dollar since SoKor is unofficially the 51st State of the Union! Koreans no longer have to get a visa to enter the United States!

The U.S. Treasury at the onset of the U.S. Civil War in 1861 printed demand notes with its green color inviting trust on growth and stability. The money stayed green until 2004 when the reprinted $5 acquired purple, and the reprinted $10-50s got colorful since.

The first paper money was not interest bearing. Now banks pay a 1-percent levy to use the medium of exchange, passing on the cost to the customer, and charging interest along its projected market value in time. Thus my bank tells me I can use $3,000 of their funds and I pay them $60 per annum for that privilege, $55 last year. Then they slap additional interest on my purchases. Depending on one's credit rating, that interest charge can go as high as a third of the value of one's consumption.

A large section of the U.S. economy is based on financial services, managing the currency flow that denotes the exchange between assets. Two centuries ago, we were a resource-based economy, dependent on what is derived from the utilization of natural resource. Cotton was the supreme commodity in the U.S. South.

Industrial U.S. North manufactured goods. It also discovered faster capital formation in the acquisition of real estate, particularly those owned by others. The Native Americans, denied rights to their land and disenfranchised from their natural resource, went the way of extinction. Banks and a war machinery legalized larceny. War as a perpetual stance, whether conducted to separate from King George, or to deprive Pocahontas of her inheritance, was good for business.

Coal utilization shaped the transcontinental railway as the interstate highway moved further with the manufacture of cars. Needs demanded to be met in food, clothing, and shelter. American work ethic sufficiently met them. Then we discovered the power of wants, and the world of advertising was born. We are lured to acquire things that pacify our restless feelings and anxious thoughts.

We mastered the seven seas and charted the course of aerospace. Science produced pharmaceuticals and drug addiction; factories churn carbonated sugar water. A certain soda product contained coca, which was habit-forming, but the soda company paid for Chandler School of Theology at Emory U in Atlanta! How can we complain? Now, the rest of the world litters the landscape with its plastic containers. What is at most a three-cent product, I am told, is sold wholesale at 35!

Money is on the money. Japan's economy has not grown but it supports its population in style with the earnings of its financial assets and management around the world. Only 10 percent of U.S. labor is still in resource utilization and production. The rest are on services, particularly in the financial use of the dollar as a global medium of exchange. Waste management of consumed resource was left to pollute the lakes and rivers of China!

How can an economy be based on the means of distribution and exchange?

Easy. Establish a war cartel (military-industrial complex to Ike) that sells goods and services, supported by the speed of information technology, and one's economy can be in place for a long, long time, give or take a tolerable margin of 5 percent unemployment!

Privately owned U.S.-dominated global corporations, a government steeped in war rhetoric, a system that perpetually manipulates our wants and needs to access our willingness to be in debt, and an image of our culture emerges. It is colored green.

A needed shift is occurring, tectonic in speed in some places, of tsunami force in others. A friend lives in a village where they have cooperative housing, and a flea market that encourages barter of goods and services. He has a heating and air-conditioning worker periodically check his house's unit and fully loads the worker's pickup with his garden produce each time. He has also moved his financial assets to the local credit union.

In other places, the poor gawk at the mall, shoplift from perfumed and camera-monitored Gallerias, while the desperate and the destitute resort to breaking into post exchanges, like the one in Puerto Rico. Indeed, why should there be two-tiered markets for the free and the brave?

Ooops!

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Why would anyone want to be president?

By FRIDA GHITIS
The Miami Herald

Frida Ghitis writes about global affairs for The Miami Herald. *Readers may send her email at fjghitis@gmail.com.*

As the November elections approach, one question jumps to mind: Why does anyone want to be president? Taking the rudder of the United States has never been anything but an enormous challenge. The difficulties confronting the winner of the next election will prove no exception.

I'm not referring to the state of American politics and the way the two parties have suddenly decided they cannot work together, or about the giant economic dilemmas that loom in the American horizon. I'm simply looking at the warning signs rising from the other side of the Atlantic—I'll leave the Pacific for another day. It's enough to take your breath away.

Consider, for a small sample, what has transpired in the world in just the last few days. In the course of a single week, the European Union, America's principal global ally, inched closer to the edge of economic disaster. We know Greece is standing at the brink of the precipice and has already seen many rocks slide out from under its feet. But Greece is a small country. The really frightening troubles are becoming visible in Spain, where banks are groaning under a mountain of bad real estate debt. This is not the result of too much government generosity. It's the product of an economic collapse that sucked the air out of the real estate property market.

If Spain falls, Europe may not be able to avert disaster. America will not be able to build a sea wall tall enough to keep out the tsunami.

But Europe is hardly the only danger ahead. Egypt, the most populous country in the Middle East, recently held its first free presidential election—and produced a most disappointing result. Instead of choosing one of the relatively moderate candidates, voters chose the two extremes. The top two vote-getters will face off in a run-off next month, and the outcome of that election is sure to give heartburn to whoever lives in the White House in the coming years.

The next president of Egypt will be either Mohammed Morsi, a hardline leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, or Ahmed Shafiq, a former general who served as Mubarak's last prime minister.

Whether Morsi or Shafiq wins, the future for Egypt looks like a confrontation waiting to happen between the military and the Brotherhood. Nobody, by the way, seems to be standing for the liberal principles that guided the young, secular activists of Tahrir Square.

Egypt could become the first post-Arab Spring country whose government is completely dominated by the Muslim Brotherhood, or it could erupt into Muslims versus military clashes, or it could end up with a military takeover. The way ahead looks as clear as a sand storm. And we're talking about the Middle East, the most unstable region of the world even before the new wave of revolutions started last year, and lest we forget, the source and transit point of much of the world's economic lifeblood, oil.

As Egyptians voted a few days ago, western powers met with representatives of Iran, hoping for progress in efforts to stop the Islamic Republic's nuclear program. The meeting in Baghdad achieved nothing, except an agreement to meet again next month in June. Every few weeks we hear more evidence from U.N. nuclear inspectors, who say Iran is enriching uranium to higher levels and appears to be preparing to "militarize" its nuclear operations.

The president's briefing on Iran was probably interrupted by news from Syria, where the regime is intensifying its slaughter of anti-dictatorship protests. Now an Iranian general has let it slip that Iranian Revolutionary Guards are helping forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar Assad put down the rebellion.

Pressure is growing for intervention in Syria, but Russia, in particular, has given Assad cover. Syria is becoming a proxy for the battle between Iran and its Arab, Sunni, and western adversaries.

Regardless of what unfolds in Europe, and how the American economy fares in the coming months, the danger from the continuing crises in the Middle East will occupy the days of the man who wins in November. And it is sure to occupy some of his nights, as well, with a few 3 a.m. emergency calls sure to wake him up.

With the world changing at such a dangerous pace, it would be nice if he could count on a Congress and an opposition party with a strong sense of loyalty, and on an economy strong enough to provide more freedom of action. Yet it's all but certain that those luxuries, available to some of his predecessors, will remain absent for the winner of the next election.

A meeting with Dr. Kevorkian

By MICHAEL SMERCONISH
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Michael Smerconish writes for The Philadelphia Inquirer. *Readers may contact him via www.smerconish.com.*

"I'm Albert Miley and I'm from Warminster, Pa. I want you to contact my attorney Geofrey Fieger."

So read the note pinned on "Buddy" Miley by his younger brother Jimmy when Buddy was left in the care of a physician. But this was no hospital or medical office. It was Room 146 of the Quality Inn in Livonia, Mich. And there was no insurance co-pay, just the payment of $46. And the physician was Jack Kevorkian.

Buddy Miley, 41, went to Michigan to die. By the time he got to Kevokian, Miley had been suffering for 23 1/2 years, significantly longer than the 17 he had enjoyed while able to move his limbs.

On an overcast Saturday afternoon in September 1973, Miley, a standout quarterback for William Tennent High, was injured while running what had seemed like a routine option play. Tennent was playing a Suburban One League game at Plymouth-Whitemarsh High School in Plymouth Meeting, Pa. Miley, standing 6-foot-2 and weighing 170 pounds, gained a few yards before sustaining a blow that would leave him incapacitated. He suffered severe damage at C4/C5 of his vertebrae, or, in the vernacular of the time, he broke his neck.

Miley was initially the recipient of an overwhelming outpouring of sympathy. Eagles quarterback Roman Gabriel visited in the hospital. Eagles General Manager Jimmy Murray arranged for a "hug on the telephone" from quarterback Roger Staubach. Joe Namath, whom Miley idolized, sent signed memorabilia. Dallas coach Tom Landry visited the family home. Alan Ameche, a Heisman Trophy winner, sent Miley's parents on a Caribbean vacation.

But time moved slowly for Miley, who was in constant pain and required full care while living with his parents. His debilitating condition placed his large, tight-knit family under a tremendous burden, particularly his mother, Rosemarie. Nearly two decades after the accident, her frustration was evident in a letter she penned to Sports Illustrated. It began: "My son broke his neck 19 years ago playing high school football. Since then, our home has been hell on earth ..."

That's when Miley's plight became known to Mark Kram Jr., a reporter at the Philadelphia Daily News, who wrote a newspaper cover story titled "19 Years of Hell."

Kram now has meticulously charted the entire Miley tragedy in a new book called ``Like Any Normal Day.'' The result is a poignant account of family love and brotherly devotion. As Kram writes, the trip to Michigan was not the first taken together by Buddy and Jimmy. They previously had flown to the shrine at Lourdes, France, in a "Hail Mary" bid for healing. The book also introduces us to Karen Kollmeyer, who would have had a first date with Buddy the night of the accident. While over the years their relationship ebbed and flowed, it was Karen whom Buddy talked to by phone while at the hotel awaiting Kervorkian.

Not long after that telephone farewell, there was a knock on the door, and in walked Dr. Death, wearing a black hat and dark glasses, and accompanied by two associates.

"So you're the celebrity?" Kevorkian said to Miley in recognition of Kram's Daily News cover story, which had been sent to him. And then, while his associates prepared Buddy to die, Kevorkian went into the hotel bathroom to prepare his lethal concoction. He emerged minutes later with a homemade device he called the Thanatron, which consisted of three glass bottles on a small frame, with a button that Buddy could use to hasten his own death while lying on the hotel bed.

It was now time for Jimmy to leave his older brother and fly home to Philadelphia.

Later than night, at the Miley family home on Acorn Drive in Warminster, Buddy's parents and siblings gathered to mourn while fearing the unknown. Would Jimmy get in trouble? Would the cops show up and lead him off in handcuffs? Thankfully, neither occurred.

As for Kevorkian, he died one year ago after having been hospitalized for pneumonia and a kidney-related ailment. He was 83. Published accounts said that the music of Johann Sebastian Bach was played for him at the William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich., so he could hear the music he loved as he was dying.

That sounds like health insurance. Hospital linens. Balloon deliveries. Balanced meals. The company of loved ones. Skilled practitioners. Familiar walls. Facing death with comfort.

Too bad our laws didn't, and still would not, permit Buddy Miley that level of dignity instead of a roadside hotel in the company of strangers. At least he had the best of brothers in Jimmy.

Unleash Biden!

By RICH LOWRY
King Features Synd., Inc.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

Joe Biden is performing a public service, God love him. Out on the stump, he renders the case for President Barack Obama's re-election in all its populist crudity.

No dulcet tones. No faux sophistication. No charm. C'mon, man! There's no time for that when Mitt Romney is descending on America promising to commit the most heinous acts in the history of vampire capitalism.

The Obama re-election campaign must make Romney, a mild-mannered man with a sterling business record and a center-right record as Massachusetts governor, into a fiendish apparition too risky to entrust with the highest office in the land. That entails over-the-top attacks delivered with a cocksure shamelessness and little regard for nuance or truth. *Vice President Biden reporting for duty, sir!*

Biden's willingness to say anything makes him the ideal attack dog. If the Obama team didn't have Joe Biden, it would have to invent someone as hyperbolic and overeager.

Vice President Biden may make many mistakes, but insufficient demagoguery will never be one of them. In a speech at a manufacturing facility in Ohio, he said that at Bain "Romney made sure the guys on top got to play by a separate set of rules, he ran massive debts, and the middle class lost." Then, he moved in for the kill: "So what do you think he'll do as president?" Q.E.D.

The likes of Biden never explain what they would have preferred to happen to the troubled businesses that attracted the attention of Bain. Simply go out of business without any attempt at a turnaround? Even Biden stipulates that he has no problem, as a general proposition, with private equity. If so, he shouldn't be shocked that some acquisitions turn out better than others.

Of course, Biden can't help but lend an air of ridiculousness to whatever he touches. At the same Ohio campaign stop, he declaimed that "they" (rich Romney supporters) don't understand "us" (the struggling working class), before shouting about his parents dreaming that one day he could become vice president. Such Biden moments tend to provoke hilarity followed by concern—i.e., once the chuckling stops, one wonders, "Is he unwell?"

Biden subsequently explained—if that's the right word—that "I get tired of being called 'Middle Class Joe,' like that somehow I'm just Joe and I don't dream. C'mon, man." Where to start? No one calls Biden "Middle Class Joe," except maybe his press flacks under extreme duress. And salt-of-the earth people don't usually refer to themselves in the third person. Biden was first elected to the Senate in 1972. After soaking up the working-class ethos of that deliberative body for 36 years, he decamped to the Naval Observatory as vice president of the United States.

If Barack Obama circa 2004 had known that his political fate would eventually be tied to a longtime senator famous for buffoonish outbursts, he might have reconsidered the audacity of hope. With an unpopular record and a disappointing recovery, the president needs every hatchet man he can get. So the battle cry has gone out, "Unleash Biden!" Hide the women and children.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87 ° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

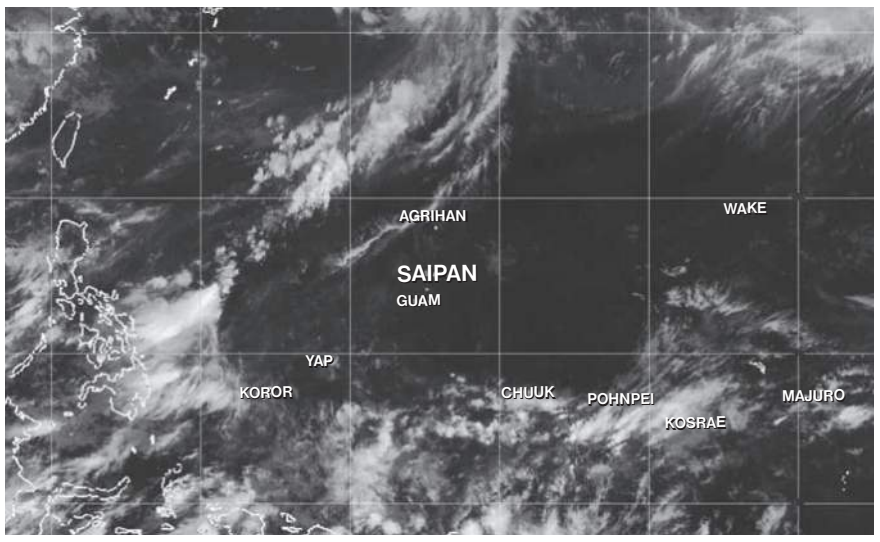
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲88	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲92	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼51
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲87	▼66
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼72
London	Showers	▲59	▼56
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲81	▼61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼82
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼77
New York	Thundershowers	▲75	▼59
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲78	▼67
Paris	Showers	▲70	▼54
Pusan	Showers	▲74	▼65
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼63
Salem	Rain	▲61	▼48
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼52
Seoul	Showers	▲80	▼65
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲78	▼66
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲80	▼64

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough stretches southeastward from 10N130E to EQ137E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the trough can be found over Palau and near Yap between the equator and 13N from 130E to 142E. An upper-level low is centered just southeast of Guam near 10N143E. Converging trade winds are combining with divergent upper-level winds east of the low to produce an area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Guam between 7N and 11N from 141E to 149E. A larger upper-level low is centered north of Pohnpei near 13N158E. Converging trade winds are combining with divergent upper-level winds east of the low to generate scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Kosrae between 8N to 16N from 160E to 168E and also over Pohnpei and Kosrae within 120 miles of a line from 6N153E to 6N165E. Trade-wind convergence southwest of Chuuk is causing an area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 150 miles of a line from 3N142E to 4N151E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering a band of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Kwajalein and over Majuro between 4N and 8N from 168E to 180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:52 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
9:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
5:04 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:29 PM	8:20 AM
Friday	10:17 PM	9:19 AM
Saturday	11:01 PM	10:15 AM
Sunday	11:41 PM	11:08 AM
Monday		11:58 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 6, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:50am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5072/PR111	10:05pm	7:50am+1	3, 6 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	4:35pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5064	4:15am	4:50am	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 5 via ROP
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
DL172/288	8:05am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5077	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C05071	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5076	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; UA: United; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Business

Disney's new diet for kids: No more junk food ads

NEW YORK (AP)—There won't be any more candy, sugary cereal or fast food on TV with the morning cartoons.

The Walt Disney Co. on Tuesday became the first major media company to ban ads for junk food on its television channels, radio stations and websites, hoping to stop kids from eating badly by taking the temptation away.

First Lady Michelle Obama called it a "game changer" that is sure to send a message to the rest of the children's entertainment industry.

"Just a few years ago if you had told me or any other mom or dad in America that our kids wouldn't see a single ad for junk food while they watched their favorite cartoons on a major TV network, we wouldn't have believed you," said Obama, who heads a campaign to curb child obesity.

The food that doesn't meet Disney's nutritional standards goes beyond candy bars and fast-food meals. Capri Sun juice (too much sugar) and Oscar Mayer Lunchables (high sodium) won't be advertised. Any cereal with 10 grams or more of sugar per serving is also off the air. A full meal can't be more than 600 calories.

Disney's rules—which won't take effect until 2015—follow a proposal by New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg to take supersized drinks over 16 ounces out of convenience stores, movie theaters and restaurants, removing choices to try to influence behavior.

Getting rid of junk food ads will make it easier to keep the family on a healthy diet, said Nadine Haskell, a mother of two sons, 8 and 11.

"If they see a commercial on TV, then the next time we go to the grocery store they'll see it and say they want to try it," said Haskell, of Columbus, Ohio.

Disney declined to say how much revenue it stands to lose from banning unhealthy food. CEO Bob Iger said there might be a short-term reduction in advertising revenue, but he hopes that advertisers will eventually adjust and create products that meet the standards.

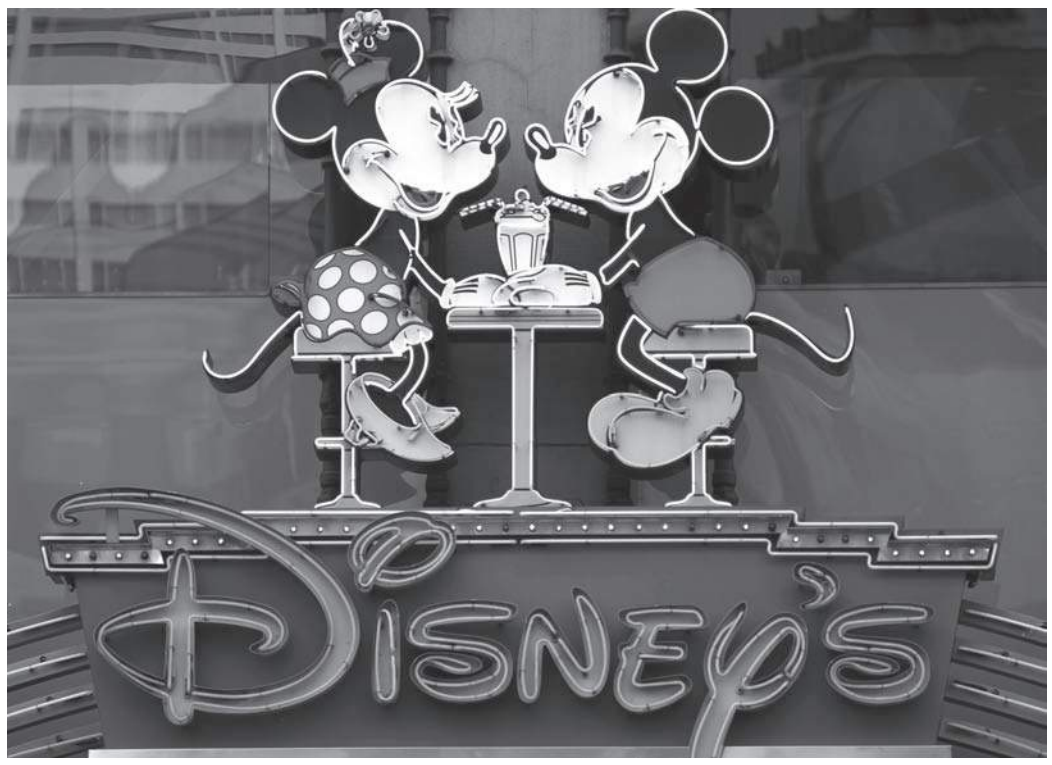
The ban would apply to TV channels such as Disney XD, children's programming in the Saturday-morning block aired on Disney-owned ABC stations, Radio Disney and Disney-owned websites aimed at families with young children. The company's Disney Channel has sponsorships, but does not run ads.

Aviva Must, chairwoman of the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts School of Medicine, said Disney could succeed where the government has made little progress.

"There seems to be limited taste for government regulation," said Must, who has studied childhood obesity for decades. "So I think a large company like Disney taking a stand and putting in a policy with teeth is a good step."

Even though many fast-food chains and food companies are rolling out healthier options like apples and salads, Disney said it still could deny the companies' ads.

Leslie Goodman, Disney's senior vice president of corporate citizenship, said Disney will consider a company's broader offerings when deciding whether to approve ads.



AP

In this photo Feb. 6, 2012, file photo, the Disney Soda Fountain & Studio Store marquee is seen on Hollywood Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Australia grows at fastest rate since 2008 crisis

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Australia's economy rocketed to 4.3 percent growth for the year through March, its fastest expansion since the global financial crisis as Chinese demand for iron ore and other commodities masked difficulties outside the mining industry.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics said Wednesday that the economy grew 1.3 percent in the January-March quarter from the previous quarter, which was double what economists had expected.

A major driver was a 19.7 percent surge in engineering construction, mainly in mining. Planned investment in the resources sector reached 500 billion Australian dollars ($500 billion).

Treasurer Wayne Swan said the strong growth was achieved despite a cyclone disrupting iron ore exports from Western Australia state and some sectors outside the mining industry struggling against a high Australian dollar.

Mineral-rich Western Australia's economy grew by 13.6 percent for the year.

"There have been headwinds as well, which is also why this is such a remarkable result," Swan told reporters.

Swan said the growth also demonstrated that the AU$1.5 trillion Australian economy would withstand a carbon tax which will be paid by the nation's biggest industrial polluters from next month.

The government's critics argue that the AU$23 tax that polluters will have to pay for every metric ton of carbon gases that they produce would cost jobs.

"The fact is with a carbon price, our economy will continue to grow," Swan said.

The March growth figures predate the latest deterioration in the Europeans debt crisis.

Australia's central bank on Tuesday cut its benchmark interest rate for a second consecutive month to 3.5 percent as Europe's economy weakens and growth in China moderates.

The government forecast in May that the mining boom would lift economic growth from 3 percent in the current fiscal year ending June 30 to 3.25 percent next year.

It also forecast that the carbon tax which will take effect from July 1 would dampen economic and employment growth by less than a quarter of a percentage point during the next fiscal year.

Few options left for Obama on economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—In the wake of an alarmingly weak jobs report last week, President Barack Obama and lawmakers in both parties find themselves possessing few if any realistic options for jolting the economy out of its doldrums before Election Day.

Big-ticket items like payroll tax cuts, free-trade agreements, months of extended unemployment benefits and "stimulus" spending on public works and aid to states and local governments have been tried but have failed to spur a sustained, robust recovery.

Obama's $830 billion stimulus bill—a third of it tax cuts—enacted when he took office has pretty much run out, its impact the subject of heated debate on the campaign trail. At its peak in 2010, the stimulus measure accounted for at least 1 million jobs—and perhaps as many as 5 million—according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Many of those jobs, particularly in state and local government, have since disappeared. Republicans, empowered by mid-term election returns two years ago, now scoff at Obama's suggestion for another round of stimulus government spending.

Obama's remaining "to do list" for Congress contains a partial tax credit for new hires, extending tax breaks about to expire, renewing highway and mass transit construction programs and preventing interest rates on student loans from doubling. Even combined, they hold little promise of lifting a $15 trillion economy from its torpor.

What's missing are proposals to try to boost consumer demand—like a new round of tax cuts for individuals—or another set of big-spending "stimulus" proposals to pump federal dollars into the economy.

The "president is continuing to work with his team on potential new ideas" to jumpstart the economy, White House spokesman Jay Carney said Monday when pressed about the sagging rate of job growth.

The reality is the ideas coming from Obama are likely be the ones he has already proposed. There is no money and no political appetite for bolder ideas. And the White House has no confidence that Republicans in Congress would help him muscle through even smaller economic measures for fear it might be seen as helping his standing with voters.

"It's not okay to simply root for failure and hope it pays off politically," Carney told reporters.

Obama's jobs initiative last fall featured lots of campaign-style rallies in swing states but little real engagement with Republicans controlling the House or serving as gatekeepers in the gridlocked Senate. The initiative coincided with a lift in Obama's poll numbers but seemed to further alienate top Republicans like House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil rises to near $85 after US crude supply drop

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices rose to near $85 a barrel Wednesday in Asia after a report showed U.S. crude supplies fell more than expected, suggesting demand may be improving. Benchmark oil for July delivery was up 57 cents to $84.86 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 31 cents to settle at $84.29 in New York on Tuesday.

Burger King strikes deal to expand in Russia

NEW YORK (AP)—Burger King is expanding its empire overseas, this time in Russia. The world's second largest hamburger chain said Tuesday it has reached a deal with its franchise operator in the country to open several hundred new locations in the next few years. There are currently 57 Burger King locations in Russia. The deal continues the Miami-based chain's focus on expanding in emerging markets at a time when the fast food industry is becoming increasingly saturated in the United States. In the past year, 80 percent of Burger King's new openings have been in the region encompassing Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Pa.'s Zippo produces its 500 millionth lighter

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Zippo Manufacturing Co. in northwestern Pennsylvania has produced its 500 millionth lighter. The brass case of the lighter, plated with brushed chrome, was stamped with the time that it was finished on Tuesday: 10:51 a.m. The family-owned company's 620 workers lined up in Bradford, about 130 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, and handed the case and the lighter's innards down a human conveyor line to company President Greg Booth.

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,127.95	1,285.50	2,778.11
26.49	7.32	18.10
+0.22%	+0.57%	+0.66%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0168	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7585	Philippine Peso	43.315
British Pound	0.6484	Indian Rupee	55.495	Singapore Dollar	1.2806
Canadian Dollar	1.0341	Indonesian Rupiah	9473.75	South Korean Won	1174.65
Chinese Yuan	6.3674	Japanese Yen	78.8085	Swiss Franc	0.9616
Euro	0.8004	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1782	Taiwan Dollar	29.881
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3142	Thailand Baht	31.485

Nation

Walker survives recall election in Wisconsin

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker beat back a recall challenge Tuesday, winning both the right to finish his term and a voter endorsement of his strategy to curb state spending, which included the explosive measure that eliminated union rights for most public workers.

With his defeat of Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and the union leaders who rallied for months against Walker's agenda, the rising GOP star became the first governor in U.S. history to survive a recall attempt.

"Tonight we tell Wisconsin, we tell our country and we tell people all across the globe that voters really do want leaders who stand up and make the tough decisions," Walker said in his victory speech in Waukesha.

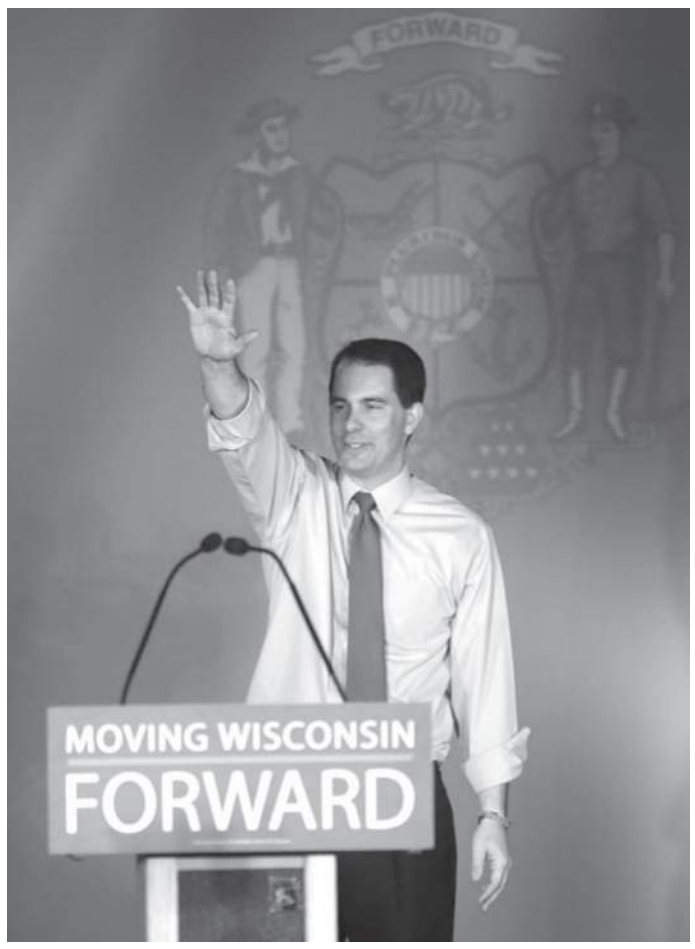
The governor said he was committed to working with his opponents, beginning with a friendly get-together with lawmakers of both parties over brats, burgers and "maybe a little bit of good Wisconsin beer."

With nearly all precincts reporting, Walker had nearly 53 percent of the vote, compared with 46 percent for Barrett, according to unofficial returns tabulated by The Associated Press.

As he conceded his loss, Barrett said the state had been left "deeply divided" by the recall battle.

"It is up to all of us, their side and our side, to listen. To listen to each other," Barrett said.

Walker was only the third governor to face a recall vote. The other two lost, most recently California Gov. Gray Davis in 2003.



AP

Wisconsin Republican Gov. Scott Walker waves at his victory party Tuesday, June 5, 2012, in Waukesha, Wis. Walker defeated Democratic challenger Tom Barrett in a special recall election.

Democrats and organized labor spent millions to oust Walker, but found themselves hopelessly outspent by Republicans from across the country who donated record-setting sums to Walker. Republicans hope the victory carries over into November and that their get-out-the-vote effort can help Mitt Romney become the first GOP nominee to carry the state since Ronald Reagan in 1984.

Romney issued a statement saying Walker's victory "will echo beyond the borders of Wisconsin."

Walker "has shown that citizens and taxpayers can fight back - and prevail - against the runaway government costs imposed by labor bosses," Romney said. "Tonight voters said no to the tired, liberal ideas of yesterday and yes to fiscal responsibility and a new direction."

President Barack Obama had supported Barrett. But the president's Wisconsin campaign director pointed to a bright spot for Democrats: Exit polls showed voters favored Obama over Romney.

In spite of the GOP victory, Trippe Wellde said in a statement, the recall challenge sent a strong message to Walker about "the politics of division."

The recall was a rematch of the 2010 governor's race. Throughout the campaign, Walker maintained his policies set the state on the right economic track. Defeat, he said, would keep other politicians from undertaking such bold moves in the future.

Barrett repeatedly accused Walker of neglecting the needs of the state in the interests of furthering his own political career. He said Walker had instigated a political civil war in Wisconsin that could be quelled only by a change in leadership.

ELECTION 2012

Wisconsin vote

Results in the Wisconsin gubernatorial recall election

10:30 p.m. ET Tuesday (43% of precincts)

Governor	
Scott Walker (R)	59 %
Tom Barrett (D)	41
Hari Trivedi (I)	>1
Lieutenant governor	
Rebecca Kleefisch (R)	61 %
Mahlon Mitchell (D)	39

Source: AP © 2012 MCT

Walker entered the national spotlight last year when he unveiled plans to plug a $3.6 billion budget shortfall in part by taking away the union rights of most public workers and requiring them to pay more for their health insurance and pension benefits. It was one of his first moves in office.

Democrats and labor leaders saw it as a political tactic designed to gut the power of his political opposition. State Senate Democrats left Wisconsin for three weeks in a sort of filibuster, as tens of thousands of teachers, state workers and others rallied at the Capitol in protest.

Bill Clinton: Extend all tax cuts temporarily

WASHINGTON (AP)—Former President Bill Clinton said Tuesday that broad tax cuts that expire in January should be temporarily renewed, including for the wealthiest Americans, to give lawmakers time to reach a deal on a longer-term extension that should exclude the rich.

Clinton's comments were in contrast to President Barack Obama, whose re-election he is supporting. Obama has opposed renewing the tax reductions for people earning over $250,000 a year, saying they must contribute to the effort to control rampant federal deficits.

Clinton

Reductions in income tax rates and other levies first enacted under President George W. Bush expire in January, at the same time that $1.2 trillion in automatic spending cuts begin to take effect. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and others have warned that letting both events occur would suck so much money out of the economy that it could spark a renewed recession next year.

"What I think we need to do is to find some way to avoid the fiscal cliff, to avoid doing anything that would contract the economy now, and then deal with what's necessary in the long-term debt reduction plan as soon as they can, which presumably will be after the election," Clinton said on CNBC's "Closing Bell With Maria Bartiromo."

Asked whether that meant extending the tax cuts, Clinton said, "They will probably have to put everything off until early next year. That's probably the best thing to do right now."

He also said Republicans will press to include the wealthy in a permanent extension of the tax cuts, adding, "I don't think the president should do that."

White House officials would not comment immediately on Clinton's remarks. But officials pointed out that Obama has said repeatedly that he would not extend the Bush tax cuts for higher earners after they expire.

After the interview, Clinton spokesman Matt McKenna said the former president has said before that he favored extending all the tax cuts as part of a compromise tax and jobless benefits bill in 2010, "but does not believe the tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans should be extended again."

Republicans have insisted that tax rates for the rich should be kept low, saying many of them run companies that create jobs.

First lady walks fine line on NYC drink proposal

WASHINGTON (AP)—First lady Michelle Obama says banning big servings of sugary drinks isn't anything she'd want to do at the federal level, but she offered some kind words Tuesday for New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's effort to do just that. She later issued a statement backing away from taking a stand on New York's controversial proposed ban.

It was a telling example of the fine line the first lady walks as she tries to improve Americans' health and eating habits without provoking complaints that she's part of any "nanny state" telling people how to eat or raise their children.

Asked about Bloomberg's proposal during an interview with The Associated Press, Mrs. Obama said there's no "one-size-fits-all" solution for the country's health challenges. But she said, "We applaud anyone who's stepping up to think about what changes work in their communities. New York is one example."

And asked whether the nation's obesity epidemic warrants taking a more aggressive approach, such as Bloomberg's, she said: "There are people like Mayor Bloomberg who are, and that is perfectly fine."

Mrs. Obama later issued a statement saying that she hadn't intended to weigh in on the Bloomberg plan "one way or the other."

"I was trying to make the point that every community is different and every solution is different and that I applaud local leaders including mayors, business leaders, parents, etc., who are taking this issue seriously and working towards solving this problem."

"But this is not something the administration is pursuing at a federal level and not something I'm specifically endorsing or condemning."

In the interview, Mrs. Obama said she's "trying to create a big tent for people. Our motto is everyone has a role to play in this and I think it's up to communities and families to figure out what role they can play, what role they should play."

Last week, Bloomberg proposed limiting portion sizes of sugary drinks to 16 ounces at the city's restaurants, delis, food trucks, movie theaters and sporting arenas. Regular soda and sports drinks would be affected but not diet sodas.

The proposal is unpopular with most New Yorkers, according to a NY1-Marist poll conducted Sunday. A majority of New York City residents said the proposal was a bad idea and 53 percent said it was more government going too far than good health policy to fight the problem of obesity. The ban is expected to win the approval of the Bloomberg-appointed Board of Health and take effect as early as March.

Mrs. Obama spoke about the Bloomberg plan during an interview promoting her new book, "American Grown: The Story of the White House Kitchen Garden and Gardens Across America." The $30 book, which came out last week, traces the story of the garden on the South Lawn and of gardens around the country as the starting point for a national conversation "about the food we eat, the lives we lead, and how all of that affects our children," as Mrs. Obama puts it.

ACROSS THE NATION

NTSB: Fatigued driver caused deadly NY bus crash

WASHINGTON (AP)—A tour bus crash last year that claimed 15 lives was probably caused by a driver suffering from too little sleep and a bus company that provided too little safety oversight, the National Transportation Safety Board said Tuesday. The five-member board, in a unanimous vote, said the driver, Ophadell Williams, had almost no sleep in the three days leading up to the March 12, 2011, accident except for naps he took on the bus while passengers were inside a Connecticut casino gambling. The bus was traveling at speeds up to 78 miles per hour in a 50 mph zone of Interstate 95 while returning to New York's Chinatown until seconds before it ran off the road, clattered along a highway guard rail, toppled over and crashed into the support pole for a highway sign. The pole knifed through the bus front to back along the window line, peeling the roof off all the way to the back tires. Besides those killed, 17 other passengers were injured, some severely.

Miss. man executed for killing 4 nieces, nephews

PARCHMAN, Miss. (AP)—A Mississippi man convicted of killing four young nieces and nephews in a 1990 stabbing rampage was executed Tuesday, despite pleas from his two sisters to spare the brother who killed their children. Henry "Curtis" Jackson Jr. was pronounced dead at 6:13 p.m. CDT Tuesday after receiving an injection at the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman, officials said. Clad in a red prison jumpsuit as he lay strapped to a gurney, Jackson was asked if he wanted to make a statement. "No, I don't," he responded as family members sat somberly in a nearby witness room.

Asia

Al-Qaida No. 2 dies in US drone strike in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—A U.S. drone strike in northwest Pakistan has killed al-Qaida's second-in-command, officials from both countries confirmed Tuesday, the most significant victory so far in the controversial bombing campaign and the biggest setback to the terror network since the death of Osama bin Laden.

Abu Yahya al-Libi was considered a media-savvy, charismatic leader with religious credentials who was helping preside over the transformation of a secretive group based in Pakistan and Afghanistan into a global movement aimed at winning converts—and potential attackers—from Somalia to the Philippines.

This was not the first time the U.S. had al-Libi in its sights: He was originally captured a decade ago and held by American forces at the Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan until he escaped in 2005 in an embarrassing security breach. Soon thereafter, he began appearing in videos in which he talked about the lessons he learned while watching his captors, whom he described as cowardly, lost and alienated.

White House spokesman Jay Carney called al-Libi's death a "major blow" to the group. Carney described al-Libi as an operational leader and a "general manager" of al-Qaida. He said al-Libi had a range of experience that will be hard for al-Qaida to replicate and brings the terror network closer to its ultimate demise than ever before.

"His death is part of the degradation that has been taking place to core al-Qaida during the past several years and that degradation has depleted the ranks to such an extent that there's no clear successor," Carney said.

A U.S. official familiar with the case, who confirmed that al-Libi was killed in a drone strike, said no one left in al-Qaida comes close to replacing the expertise the group has just lost. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters.

The Libyan-born al-Libi, who was thought to be in his late 40s, was killed Monday morning in a village in northwestern Pakistan, a tribal area bordering Afghanistan that is home to many al-Qaida and Taliban members and their support networks.

A Pakistani intelligence official said late Tuesday that al-Libi was dead but declined to say how authorities knew this or whether they had seen his body. He spoke on condition of anonymity because of the classified nature of the drone program.

Al-Libi, who was considered a hero in militant circles because of his escape from the American military prison, was elevated to al-Qaida's No. 2 spot when Ayman al-Zawahri replaced bin Laden. As al-Qaida's de facto general manager, he was responsible for running the group's day-to-day operations in Pakistan's tribal areas and managed outreach to al-Qaida's regional affiliates.

Al-Libi was influential and popular within al-Qaida because of his "scholarly credentials, street cred from having escaped from Bagram, charisma and his easygoing, tribal speaking style," said Jarret Brachman, a counterterrorism expert who has studied al-Libi for the past seven years.

AP

This March 25, 2007, file image, made from video posted on a website frequented by Islamist militants and provided via the IntelCenter, shows al-Qaida militant Abu Yahia al-Libi.

"People may have revered Zawahri, but they loved Abu Yahya," said Brachman.

Al-Libi was the latest in the dozen-plus senior commanders removed in the clandestine U.S. war against al-Qaida since Navy SEALs killed bin Laden in a raid on May 2, 2011 on his compound in the Pakistani military town of Abbottabad—nearly a decade after 9/11.

Perhaps the most well-known al-Qaida figure killed in a drone strike before al-Libi was Anwar al-Awlaki, a prominent member of the Yemen al-Qaida offshoot who died last September.

Al-Libi's death will likely fuel arguments in favor of the U.S. drone campaign despite Pakistani objections. Coming in an election year, it may also boost the tough-on-terrorists image President Barack Obama has tried to cultivate.

"The killing of al-Libi demonstrates the increasing proficiency and skill—plus good intelligence—at work in the decade-long American war to crush al-Qaida. It makes Barack Obama the counter-terrorist in chief in leading that war," said Aaron David Miller, a former adviser to six U.S. secretaries of state and currently a senior scholar at the Wilson Center.

The use of drones has skyrocketed under the Obama administration but has dropped off recently in Pakistan, which views the program as a violation of its sovereignty. Among the Pakistani public, the drone campaign is vilified because of its perceived civilian casualties, an allegation disputed by the U.S.

Hope, worry from Myanmar state press over leaders

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—A state-run newspaper called Aung San Suu Kyi and President Thein Sein "the hope of Myanmar"—rare praise for the opposition leader that was tempered with worry that possible tensions between the two reform-minded politicians could derail changes in the long-oppressed country.

An opinion piece published Tuesday in the New Light of Myanmar followed Suu Kyi's trip to Thailand last week, her first outside Myanmar in 24 years. Thein Sein had been scheduled to attend the same international economic forum she attended, but his visit was canceled amid speculation that he was irritated at being upstaged and annoyed that Suu Kyi visited refugees on the Thai border.

Officials for both leaders, however, have denied any tensions. Myanmar officials said Thein Sein put off traveling to Thailand because he was busy with affairs at home.

The article, purportedly written by a U.S.-based Myanmar expatriate, called the two leaders "the hope of Myanmar." It urged them to continue the cooperation they began last year but warned that "this golden opportunity will be lost" if their fragile detente breaks down.

"We want no suspicion between the two leaders and between individuals and organizations behind them," the article said.

"We would also like to call on the two leaders to embrace a fine tradition that serves the sole interest of the people, setting aside differences, egoism and selfishness that were born together with the independence. Let our dream come true," it said.

The New Light of Myanmar article also included veiled warnings to Suu Kyi that she must follow "the rule of law." The article appeared to warn her over her party's support of recent public protests over power shortages and its intention to try to revise the country's constitution, which it considers undemocratic because its gives the military a special unelected say in government.

Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy party have endorsed reforms initiated by Thein Sein following decades of repressive military rule. Suu Kyi won a seat in the army-backed legislature in April, giving her an official role in government for the first time.

Panetta to encourage India for larger role in war

NEW DELHI (AP)—Defense Secretary Leon Panetta is urging leaders of India to play a more robust role in Afghanistan, as U.S. tensions with Pakistan, India's arch-rival, continue to churn.

India has not been a major military player in the war, largely focusing on economic development and reconstruction in Afghanistan. But U.S. defense officials say Panetta will talk with Indian leaders about possibly helping to train the Afghan army and police.

Such discussions, however, come at a particularly fragile time and risk further roiling U.S. relations with Pakistan.

On Monday, a CIA drone strike targeted a top al-Qaida leader inside Pakistan. Also on Monday, NATO reached an agreement with other Central Asia nations that would bypass Pakistan to move military equipment in and out of Afghanistan.

Washington and Islamabad have been deadlocked over negotiations to re-open ground supply routes into Afghanistan that were shut down late last year after a U.S. airstrike killed two dozen Pakistani soldiers.

It's not clear whether the new NATO accord could be used to pressure Pakistan into reaching an agreement on its ground routes, or whether Panetta's visit to India at this time would help or hinder that effort.

Senior defense officials traveling with Panetta said the U.S. would like India and Pakistan to work in concert to help stabilize Afghanistan, despite their long, historical conflicts and lack of trust. Both countries, they said, would benefit from a more stable and secure Afghanistan.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to preview the meetings, said the U.S. has also talked to Pakistan about its role in the future of Afghanistan, so Islamabad should have nothing to fear.

Pakistan, however, is likely to view any increased Indian role in Afghanistan with suspicion and worry that it may dilute Islamabad's influence on the Afghans' future.

While the defense officials acknowledged the historical tension between India and Pakistan, they said the two countries have taken some steps, particularly this year, to repair the fractures.

Still, Panetta's two-day stop here in New Delhi will gain attention in Islamabad, particularly since in his previous job as CIA chief he directed many of the drone attacks on insurgents in Pakistan that raised the ire of officials there.

Panetta, who has been Pentagon chief for nearly a year, has yet to visit Pakistan, leaving much of the ongoing negotiations to his top military commanders and U.S. diplomats.

India plays a central role in the Pentagon's new defense strategy that puts greater focus on the Asia-Pacific. It was singled out for a mention in the strategy document, in part because of India's strategic location at the crossroads between East and West Asia.

As such, defense officials said India can help promote stability and peace in both the Asia Pacific region, but also more broadly across South and Central Asia. America's defense ties with India have grown steadily since about 2000, including a substantial increase in arms sales that now total more than $8.5 billion over the last 11 years. Panetta met Tuesday with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Shiv Shankar Menon, the national security adviser.

ASIAN BRIEFS

New NKorean leader stages massive children's rally

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—Kim Jong Un has made only his second public speech, addressing a massive children's rally that's aimed at winning a new generation's support for the young leader's reign. About 20,000 children were flown from across North Korea to attend Wednesday's event in Pyongyang's Kim Il Sung Stadium. The twenty-something Kim Jong Un's two speeches since taking power in December provide a striking contrast to his late father. Kim Jong Il made only one brief public speech in his years as leader.

Woman arrested in Singapore for graffiti, stickers

SINGAPORE (AP)—Police in Singapore say a 25-year-old woman has been arrested for painting graffiti and placing stickers on public property. Graffiti and other forms of vandalism are very rare in Singapore. Almost all past cases have involved foreign men, including American teenager Michael Fay, who was caned in 1994. Police said in a statement Tuesday that a convicted vandal would face mandatory caning and a fine or jail term. However, Singapore law exempts women and males 50 or older from being caned.

Biting spiders panic northeast India after 2 die

GAUHATI, India (AP)—Large biting spiders have sparked panic in remote northeast India, but health authorities fear primitive treatment of the bites' painful swelling may be more dangerous than the spiders themselves. Two people died in Tinsukia district after witch doctors used razor blades to drain the wounds. It's not known if the victims died from spider poison or from the attempted treatment. Local magistrate Kishore Thakuria said the victims were cremated before autopsies could be done.

World

Bereaved walk among dead after Nigeria plane crash

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP)—Mourners silently walked between rows of the dead from a plane crash in Nigeria that killed the 153 people aboard the airliner and others on the ground, peering into burned faces in hopes of claiming the remains of their loved ones on Tuesday.

Those in grief passed by more than a dozen bodies able to be recognized by sight alone in a Lagos hospital parking lot. Onlookers wore surgical masks to block out the smell. As family members softly wept and held each other, Nigeria's government announced Tuesday it has indefinitely suspended Dana Air's license, grounding the carrier that operated the MD-83 airplane that crashed in the country's largest city and now faces widespread public anger.

"We are without eyes," said Jennifer Enanana, as she sobbed in the parking lot over the death of her younger brother in the crash. She had lost another brother within the year. "We don't have anybody that will protect us that can stand like a man and defend us. Dana stole him."

The MD-83 went down in Lagos' Iju-Ishaga neighborhood, about nine kilometers (five miles) from Lagos' Murtala Muhammed International Airport. The area has grown dramatically over the decades since British colonialists first established an airstrip there, as Lagos surges toward becoming the largest city in Africa.

AP

Family members who lost relatives in a plane crash wait to identify their bodies at the Lagos state university teaching hospital in Lagos, Nigeria, Tuesday, June 5, 2012.

That population pressure has seen homes, business and industrial sites shoot up along the approach route used by aircraft landing at the airport, changing what used to be forests and wetlands into a sprawling megacity. The development has put the population there at risk with many aviation disasters in Nigeria over the last two decades. Emergency workers fear a number of on-the-ground deaths from Sunday's crash that saw the aircraft slam into two apartment buildings, a printing press and a woodworking shop.

By midday Tuesday, searchers had recovered 150 bodies, according to Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency. It's not yet known how many people died on the ground. Emergency workers were still looking through the debris for bodies, and one damaged building seemed on the verge of collapse.

Fearful family members who once crowded the neighborhood arrived Tuesday to the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, where authorities had placed the 43 identifiable bodies so far collected from the crash.

Professor David Oke, the chief medical director of the hospital, told the dozens of relatives and diplomats gathered there that at least 29 had already been identified, including the corpses of a Chinese citizen and a Canadian.

Federal and state authorities have discussed using DNA testing to identify other bodies, though that likely would require massive assistance from laboratories outside of the country.

"We are aware there are more coming in and there are some bodies in our other hospital ... that are really burnt beyond recognition and may eventually need more forensic assessment," Oke said.

Outside the hospital, Ugonna Nwoka said his uncle had been aboard the Dana Air flight that went down in a congested neighborhood on Sunday, turning much of it to rubble. The uncle, who worked for the country's aviation ministry, suddenly needed to travel to Lagos and picked the Dana flight, Nwoka said.

Nwoka said he tried to go to the crash site on Monday but was pushed away by security forces.

"We stayed for hours trying to plead to see what happened," Nwoka said. Asked why he needed to see the crash site, Nwoka said if he didn't it would be "all like a dream, like a drama, like it's not real."

Popular anger has risen in the country against the airline since the crash. On Tuesday, the Nigerian government indefinitely suspended Dana Air's license to fly in Africa's most population nation, said Joe Obi, a spokesman for the country's aviation ministry. Obi said officials took the action as a safety precaution.

Egypt rulers demand constitution panel in 48 hours

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's ruling military council set a 48-hour deadline Tuesday for political parties to finalize the formation of a 100-member panel to write a new constitution, or it will draw up its own blueprint.

Lawmaker Mustafa Bakri outlined the ultimatum after representatives of 18 parties and independent lawmakers met with the head of the council, Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi.

The process has been deadlocked since the Islamist-dominated parliament tried to stack the body with its own people, leading to a walkout by secular and liberal members and cancellation of the whole assembly.

The dispute mirrors the splits in Egypt, two weeks before a presidential election runoff between a Muslim Brotherhood member and the last prime minister to serve the ousted President Hosni Mubarak—the two most polarizing candidates.

It also highlighted the contentious role of the ruling military in post-Mubarak Egypt. The military rulers have drawn stiff criticism for their handling of the transition. They pledge to turn power back to a civilian government once a new president is in place, but there are some hints that they might try to hold back at the last moment if the outcome of the election is not in their favor, possibly using lack of a new constitution as a reason.

Several parties boycotted the Tuesday meeting, including the Brotherhood, the country's most influential political group. Saad el-Katatni of the Brotherhood, who is the speaker of the parliament, lashed out at the military council. "No one can strip the parliament of its authority to issue legislation or laws," he said.

Bakri said that if parties failed to name an assembly, the military council will issue "a supplementary constitutional declaration" to lay the blueprints for the panel.

Yasser Ali, a spokesman for Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohammed Morsi, said if the military council went ahead with its declaration, "it will be hijacking legislative authority from parliament."

"We won't recognize whatever comes from the military council. This is our position," he said.

The conflict over the constitutional panel adds tension to an already charged political scene, coming three days after Mubarak was given a life sentence for failing to stop the killing of protesters during last year's uprising. Many uprising stalwarts demanded a death sentence.

Since the sentencing Saturday, angry Egyptians have swept into the streets, demanding justice and denouncing the whole election process.

On Tuesday, tens of thousands of protesters converged from several mosques around Cairo on Tahrir Square, the focal point of the uprising. A long banner read: "In the name of the martyrs' blood, there will be a new revolution."

Protesters demanded enforcement of "isolation law" that prevents Mubarak-era officials from contesting elections. The law, passed by parliament but still awaiting a ruling by Egypt's Constitutional Court, might lead to cancellation of the election. Others demanded formation of "civilian presidential council" to take over from the military.

Russian parliament approves harsh bill on protests

MOSCOW (AP)—The Kremlin-controlled Russian parliament on Tuesday rammed through a harsh bill that raises fines 150-fold for people taking part in unsanctioned rallies, a move aimed at discouraging the opposition from challenging President Vladimir Putin.

The bill would jack up fines from the current 2,000 rubles to 300,000 rubles ($9,000), and comes after a series of massive protests that have reflected growing public frustration with Putin's 12-year rule. The potential punishment is more severe than for many other crimes, including even violations in the storage of nuclear materials.

The opposition factions in the lower house, the State Duma, put forward several hundred amendments in an unprecedented attempt to stymie the bill's passage, reflecting a new willingness to stand up to the Kremlin.

But members of the Kremlin's majority United Russia party voted the amendments down one by one during a marathon session that lasted nearly six extra hours and ended just before midnight. United Russia then used its majority in the 450 seat parliament to approve the bill in the second and third readings. The final vote was 241-147.

The Kremlin wants the new bill to become law by next Tuesday when the opposition plans a major protest in Moscow. The bill also will require approval by the upper house and Putin's signature, but both steps are formalities.

Since returning to the presidency in May, Putin has toughened his line toward the opposition, whose protests over the winter drew up to 100,000 in an unprecedented challenge to his rule. Due to term limits, Putin spent four years in the prime minister's seat after already serving two consecutive terms as president from 2000 to 2008.

He recently has spoken in support of the bill, saying, "We must shield our people from radical actions." Russian authorities routinely deny permission for opposition rallies or offer rally organizers venues away from the city center.

Sergei Mironov, the leader of the Fair Russia opposition faction, said the bill was a "spit in the face of the Russian people."

"This odious bill is an attempt to scare the people and shut their mouth," he said before leading his faction out of the session hall before the final vote.

He and other opposition leaders warned that the law would exacerbate tensions in Russian society and leave the public with no free outlet for discontent.

"In the past, tightening the screws in Russia has only caused bloodshed. This is a sure path to a civil war," Gennady Gudkov of Fair Russia faction told the house. "You're assuming responsibility for the country's future and pushing it toward a crisis, collapse and bloodshed."

Fair Russia and the Communists submitted more than 400 amendments to the proposed bill to slow down its passage and raise public awareness about the legislation.

WORLD BRIEFS

UN: Syria permits aid workers to enter 4 provinces

GENEVA (AP)—Syria has agreed to allow humanitarian workers and supplies into four of its provinces hit hardest by violence, a promise of some relief in a nation where 1 million people need aid urgently due to the fighting, officials said Tuesday. At the same time, however, Damascus plunged itself into further international isolation by labeling U.S. and European envoys as unwelcome in retaliation for earlier Western expulsions of Syrian diplomats. The humanitarian deal requires Syria to provide visas for an unspecified number of aid workers from nine U.N. agencies and seven other nongovernmental organizations, and to cut through the red tape that has blocked convoys from delivering food, medicine and other supplies, said John Ging, operations director for the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Solar-powered plane lands in Morocco

RABAT, Morocco (AP)—An experimental solar-powered plane landed in Morocco's capital late Tuesday after a 20-hour trip from Madrid in the first transcontinental journey by a craft of its type. With the wing span of a Boeing 777, the plane appeared out of the pitch darkness over the runway, suddenly turning on its lights and gliding to a landing in Rabat, its four propellers already still. "It was perhaps the most beautiful flight of my life, I have dreamed since I was a child of flying without using fuel," said pilot Bertrand Piccard, who has already circumnavigated the world by balloon.

Focus

NEW YORK (AP)—Americans are in for a cyber-surprise today: They'll be able to plug family names into an online 1940 U.S. census and come up with details about the lives of New Yorkers—from Joe DiMaggio and Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy to their own relatives.

1940 NY census records now searchable by name

By VERENA DOBNIK and RANDY HERSCHAFT
Associated Press

Starting after midnight, it will no longer be essential to provide exact addresses from seven decades ago to look for a New York connection.

With names, free searches of the 1940 U.S. census first made public in April will unlock personal information about residents of New York—then the largest U.S. state and an immigrant hub from which people moved all over the country.

Census experts say the New York data is of national interest because tens of millions of Americans have roots in this gateway to the United States through Ellis Island, and many can now dig for more personal information.

"That's the exciting aspect about this—the ability to search the lifetime of our mothers and fathers," said Debra Braverman, a New York-based independent forensic genealogist with clients seeking information for trust funds and estates.

When the census was first released, "if you didn't know exactly where someone lived in 1940, you couldn't find them," Braverman said.

Indexing by name is crucial to cracking the until-now closed book of that year's census, which by law could not be released for 72 years and is therefore the most recently available one.

This U.S. census leads to China.

Some of the work of transcribing handwritten census records into a computerized index was done by workers in an office outside the southern city of Dongguan with "very strong character recognition abilities," said Todd Jensen, who heads the document preservation service at Ancestry.com, a Provo, Utah-based family history company that's releasing the online New York census for 1940 using their new name index.

"Given the complexity of their own language, reading and recognizing characters from other languages comes easier," he said.

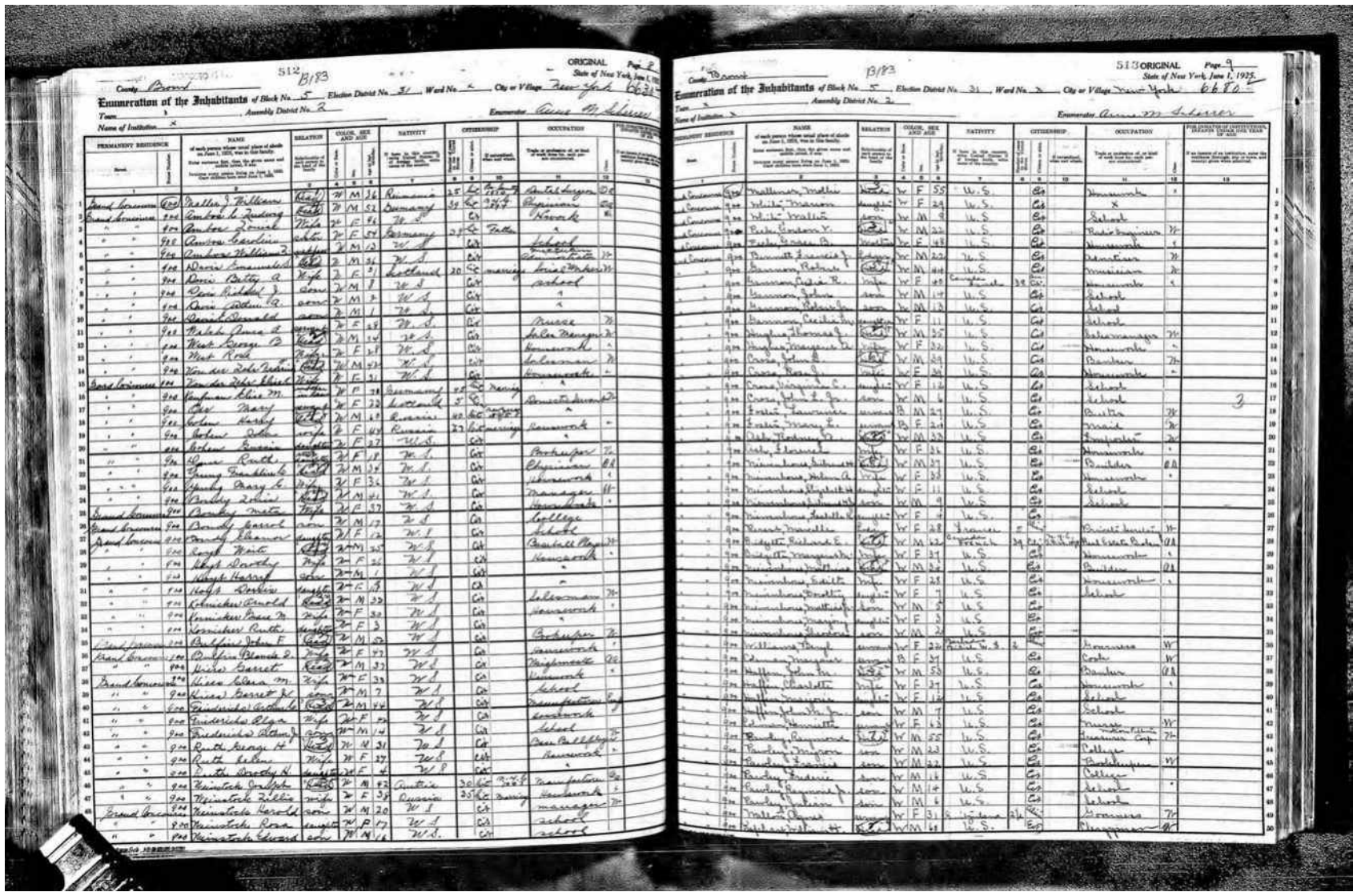
Also Wednesday, another historic treasure trove appears on the Internet for the first time: census information compiled separately by New York state for 1915 and 1925, indexed by name. These records include details about famed personalities such as Lauren Bacall, Al Capone, Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Houdini, who according to the 1925 census was born in the United States, even though most biographies say he was born in Hungary.

The interest in roots is so intense that 37 million hits temporarily crashed the National Archives provider site when the 1940 census was released on April 2. Many who logged on hoping for results hit the wall, frustrated for lack of specific locations required for results.

Braverman, a Manhattan resident, uncovered details about her 84-year-old father's family because he remembered his family's Brooklyn address before his bar mitzvah in 1940, when he was 13.

"His memory was spot on," his daughter said.

But the Brooklyn childhood address her mother remembered didn't match, so they will try to find the information again this week.



AP

This image taken from microfilm and provided by Ancestry.com shows two pages from the 1925 New York State Census with an entry for George H. Ruth, shown eighth from the bottom on the left hand side. George H. "Babe" Ruth is one of many notable New Yorkers who will be searchable online by name when the 1915 and 1925 New York States censuses and the 1940 U.S. Census become searchable by family name at midnight, June 5, 2012.

Former New York Mayor Ed Koch hit the jackpot when it came to his family history, which is contained in all three censuses—the federal one, as well as the New York ones from 1915 and 1925.

The 87-year-old Koch participated in a preview search conducted by Ancestry.com, which is making all three census records available online.

His said his father came from Europe, alone at age 16, eventually raising a family in a Bronx apartment. For years, "I told people that we lived in abject poverty," he said. A series of census records from the time would prove him wrong.

They showed that the Depression-era rent for the Kochs' five-room Bronx apartment was $75 a month, "and that was a lot of money at the time," Koch said.

"All my life, I was telling people I was very poor, but I learned we did not live in abject poverty; I was born into a middle-class family," he said.

The New York world of the 1940 census includes names that later became famous, including Katharine Hepburn, John D. Rockefeller Jr., J.D. Salinger, Kennedy and Ella Fitzgerald.

The 1940 census by name index will be available for all states possibly as early as this fall.

While New York is the biggest state whose census records are already name-indexed, a number of smaller states also have been made name-accessible by Ancestry.com and two other companies, FamilySearch.org and MyHeritage.com.

New York state censuses for 1915 and 1925 are available online for the first time via a link that says "find family history for free" to anyone providing a New York ZIP code and email address.

The state censuses show "every New Yorker from the famous to the infamous to everybody in between," said Kathleen Roe, director of archives and records management at the New York State Archives.

A perfect example of this melting pot is Babe Ruth, who at 17 appeared in the 1925 census as "George H. Ruth," living by the Grand Concourse near Yankee Stadium, which would later be dubbed "The House That Ruth Built." The Ruth family neighbor was Joseph Weinstock, an Austrian immigrant working in manufacturing and his Russian-born wife, the census shows.

"So here was the future American baseball hero living next door to an immigrant family making it in the United States," Roe said. "What a great American story! And that's what you can find out walking through a neighborhood with census records."

The censuses released this week offer "one of the greatest collections of historic voices you'll ever find," said Roe, adding that if read together, they trace whole families as they move around.

The census data also include such information as occupation, whether immigrants were naturalized citizens, and whether they owned or rented their homes—in other words, sketches of communities, said David M. Kleiman, president of Heritage Muse Inc., a New York-based genealogy technology firm.

"What we're all looking for is the story of the family—what made my grandparents the way they were, which made my parents the way they were, which made me what I am," he said.

ON THE NET

Ancestry.com: http://www.ancestry.com/newyork

New York State Archives: http://www.archives.nysed.gov

Environment

Butterfly garden designed with monarchs in mind

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

A sign in Susan Reagan's yard describes the purpose of her garden.

For three years, Susan and husband, Chris, have been turning their small plot in southeastern Virginia into a butterfly haven that's now a certified Monarch Waystation and the small sign indicates all the pieces are in place. The site features milkweed, nectar sources and shelter needed to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America; official certification comes from the nonprofit Monarch Watch—www.Monarchwatch.org/waystations.

"I have always been interested in butterfly conservation, and while I was a science teacher, I participated in several professional development courses on raising butterflies and using them in the classroom," Susan says.

NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS/MCT
Clematis hugs the back fence of Susan Reagan's butterfly garden in Historic Hilton Village in Newport News, Virginia.

NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS/MCT
Tickseed provides nectar for early butterflies in Susan Reagan's garden in Newport News, Virginia.

Susan Reagan's butterfly garden is certified as a monarch way station. NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS/MCT

"Monarchs need our help. In the fall, hundreds of millions of monarch butterflies migrate from the United States and Canada to areas in Mexico and California where they wait out winter until spring. Monarch migration is one of the world's greatest natural wonders. Unfortunately monarch populations are decreasing."

Her Monarch Waystation requires three major elements. First, host plants such as milkweed are planted everywhere so the caterpillars that turn into majestic monarchs have plenty of food to consume. The waystation website states there should be at least 10 plants representing several types of milkweed.

NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS/MCT
A small sign in Susan Reagan's butterfly garden indicates its certification as a monarch waystation in Newport News, Virginia.

Then, monarchs—and other butterflies—need nectar plants, including annuals and perennials: lantana, Mexican sunflower, zinnia, dianthus, bee balm, black-eyed Susan, goldenrod, coreopsis, purple coneflower, sedum and Joe-pye weed.

Protective shelter for the monarchs is provided by placing plants close together.

"Butterfly gardens are easy and don't take much work," Susan says.

"Just buy a few host plants like milkweed, fennel, parsley or sunflowers. Put a few plants in the ground in full sun and water them. You will be amazed who shows up."

SUSAN'S 10 TIPS

- Do not be afraid to move a plant if it does not like its location.
- Nurture your soil because it's one of the most important parts of growing beautiful, healthy plants.
- Use native plants.
- Avoid invasive plants.
- Add plants that give year-round interest;—beautiful colors for the fall, hollies and other evergreens for the holidays.
- Be kind to the environment; pull weeds instead of spraying them; use organic fertilizers and avoid insecticides.
- Do your research: know your zone, soil type and pay attention to frost dates.
- Grow plants that butterflies and birds love.
- Grow your own herbs and vegetables, using small-space techniques if you have little room.
- Share plants with others.

DO YOUR PART

Throw a green birthday bash

By TERRI BENNETT
MCT INFORMATION SERVICES

Most parents aren't doing back flips when they turn a year older. The same can't be said for our kids. When you plan your child's next birthday party, give the planet a gift at the same time. Here are my Top 7 ways to Do Your Part and throw a greener birthday bash.

1) PERSONALIZED & PAPERLESS INVITATIONS

It's common and acceptable to use an online service to invite kids to your child's big day. You can customize the emailed invitations with photos and custom wording. It is cheaper and faster than printing or writing out invitations and makes it easy for parents to RSVP.

2) PARTY WITH THE PLANET IN MIND

Lots of parents struggle with a birthday theme and location ideas. Consider hosting a low waste experience for your child's friends. It could be a trip to pick strawberries, a cooking class, or an afternoon at a petting zoo. That way you can avoid buying the streamers, balloons, and other hard to recycle decorations.

3) DECORATE RESPONSIBLY

If you do need to decorate, you can be festive without creating trash. For instance, line a wall of your party room with paper and have the partygoers write birthday messages on it. Then recycle it. Or, you can have the kids create party hats with newspaper and recycle those too. If you do have to buy specific decor, keep it generic so you can reuse it.

4) ECO-FRIENDLY DISHWARE

We've all seen the piles of plastic plates and cups filling up trash bags at parties. There are eco-friendly alternatives. Tough plastic dishware can be easily reused at home. Or, give guests a marker to write their names on cups to keep track of their drink. Also, big jugs with spigots or pitchers make it easy to avoid using those hard-to-recycle juice boxes.

5) DON'T GIVE AWAY JUNK

We know—and kids know—there are usually take-home favors at birthday parties. Consider alternatives to those cheap, easy to break plastic toys. Packets of seeds for kids to grow or a small sapling to plant are eco-friendly and fun activities for children to do later.

6) HAVE RECYCLING IN REACH

It's critical to have a recycling bin clearly labeled at the party. Let guests know which items can be collected. When cleaning up, don't dump everything out with the garbage. Take the time to sort it.

7) GIVE OLD TOYS NEW LIFE

After a birthday bash, your home will be inundated with new toys and games. Consider creating a new birthday tradition with your child and take their older and gently used toys to Goodwill or other donations spots. I have more donation details at DoYourPart.com/Columns.

Celebrating life's biggest milestones shouldn't take a toll on our planet. From the party planning stages to executing the event, Do Your Part to take the time to tread a little lighter on the planet. That's the perfect gift for your little one and the environment.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, eco-expert and author of "Do Your Part: A practical guide for everyday green living" available at DoYourPart.com. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com

The life and times of a grand old sturgeon

By ERIC SHARP
DETROIT FREE PRESS

A 321-pound lake sturgeon washed ashore on Lake Erie near Buffalo in 1991, ending a life that began in 1837 as Michigan became the 26th American state, Martin Van Buren succeeded Andrew Jackson as president and Queen Victoria ascended the throne in Great Britain.

Biologists were able to count growth rings in the fish's ear bones (otoliths) like counting growth rings in a tree stump. It was 154 years old, hatched 12 years after the Erie Canal opened the Great Lakes to invasive species in 1825.

Like most female sturgeon, it would have reached sexual maturity at 15 to 25 years old, spawning for the first time about 1857 as the U.S. drifted toward the Civil War.

Its second spawning would have come shortly after Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated as the 16th president and the third about the time he was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth.

Like most fish, the sturgeon grew its entire life, and when it spawned for the 10th time at the age of 60 it would have been 5 feet long and 75 pounds. That would have been around 1897, the year of the first Michigan-Ohio State football game, which U-M won, 34-0.

Weeks before its 15th spawning in 1917, Germany's policy of unrestricted submarine warfare brought the U.S. into World War I.

Both Michigan and the sturgeon had 100th birthdays in 1937. As the sturgeon spawned for the 20th time, the groundbreaking Flint Sit-Down Strike ended with the United Auto Workers becoming the sole bargaining agent for General Motors and growing from 30,000 to 500,000 members in a year.

By the time the sturgeon reached 120 in 1957 and spawned for the 25th time, Dwight Eisenhower was beginning his second term as president and Ford Motor Co. was a year away from introducing the Edsel. The country was also a year away from opening the St. Lawrence Seaway, which allowed a flood of exotic species to enter the Great Lakes.

As the sturgeon prepared to spawn for the 30th time around its 140th birthday in 1977, Tiger Stadium was getting a new press box and upper deck repairs after a February fire.

And when that amazing life came to an end in 1991, perhaps the result of stress from a final spawning, the sturgeon's young would face threats and competition from alewives, zebra mussels, round gobies and more than 100 other invasive species unknown in the Great Lakes when the great fish was hatched.

Life & Style

Report of first doctor to reach shot Lincoln found

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)—The first doctor to reach President Abraham Lincoln after he was shot in a Washington theater rushed to his ceremonial box and found him paralyzed, comatose and leaning against his wife. Dr. Charles Leale ordered brandy and water to be brought immediately.

Leale's long-lost report of efforts to help the mortally wounded president, written just hours after his death, was discovered in a box at the National Archives late last month.

The Army surgeon, who sat 40 feet from Lincoln at Ford's Theater that night in April 1865, saw assassin John Wilkes Booth jump to the stage, brandishing a dagger. Thinking Lincoln had been stabbed, Leale pushed his way to the victim but found a different injury.

"I commenced to examine his head (as no wound near the shoulder was found) and soon passed my fingers over a large firm clot of blood situated about one inch below the superior curved line of the occipital bone," Leale reported. "The coagula I easily removed and passed the little finger of my left hand through the perfectly smooth opening made by the ball."

The historians who discovered the report believe it was filed, packed in a box, stored at the archives and not seen for 147 years. While it doesn't add much new information, "it's the first draft" of the tragedy, said Daniel Stowell, director of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln.

"What's fascinating about this report is its immediacy and its clinical, just-the-facts approach," Stowell said. "There's not a lot of flowery language, not a lot of emotion."

A researcher for the Papers of Abraham Lincoln, Helena Iles Papaioannou, found the report among the U.S. surgeon general's April 1865 correspondence, filed under "L" for Leale.

Physicians continue to debate whether Lincoln received proper treatment. With trauma treatment still in its infancy, Leale's report illustrates "the helplessness of the doctors," Stowell said. "He doesn't say that but you can feel it."

"For his time, he did everything right," said Dr. Blaine Houmes, a Cedar Rapids, Iowa, specialist in emergency medicine who has studied the assassination. Accounts vary about how Leale did it—Houmes thinks he might have pounded on the victim's chest—but the doctor resuscitated the president.

"When Dr. Leale got into the president's box, Lincoln was technically dead," Houmes said. "He was able to regain a pulse and get breathing started again. He basically saved Lincoln's life, even though he didn't survive the wound."

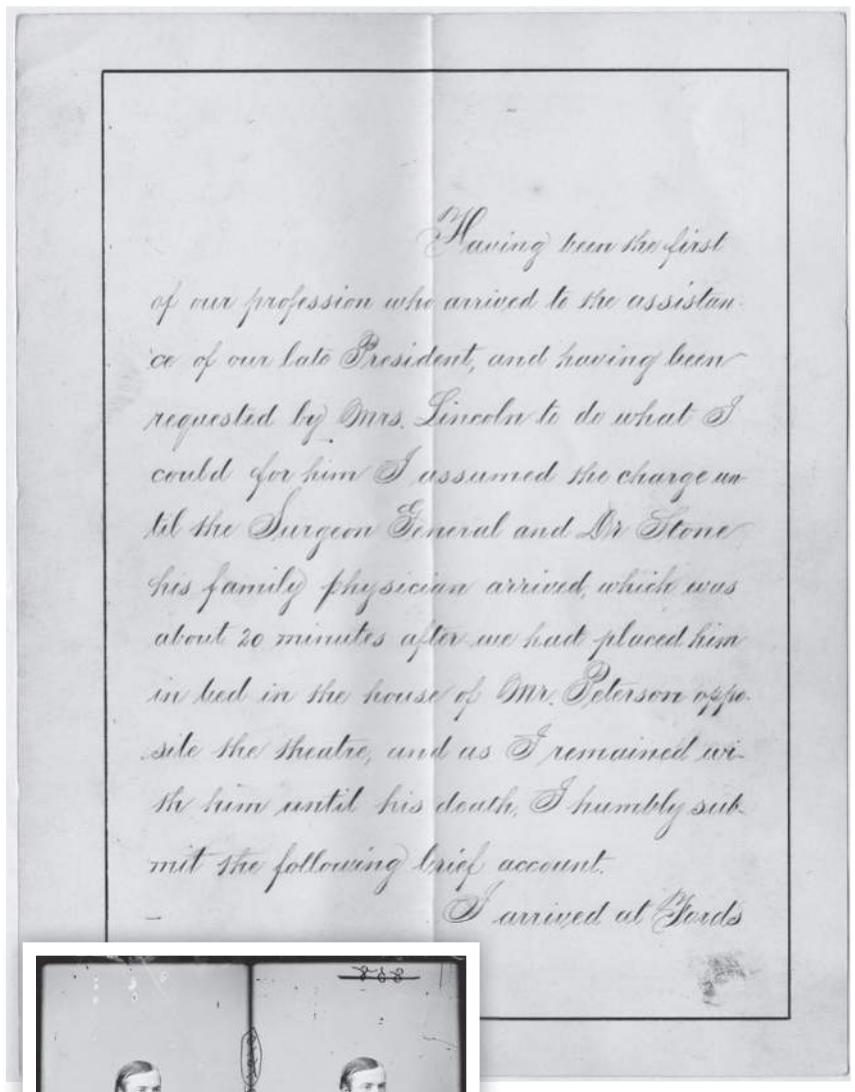
Leale wrote a report for an 1867 congressional committee investigating the assassination that referenced the earlier account, but no one had ever seen the original, said Stowell, whose group's goal is to find every document written by or to Abraham Lincoln during his lifetime.

At least four researchers have been painstakingly scouring boxes of documents at the National Archives for more than six years. They methodically pull boxes of paper—there are millions of records packed away and never catalogued, Stowell said—and look for "Lincoln docs," as Papaioannou called them.

She was assigned the surgeon general's mail and was leafing through letters pitching inventions for better ambulances and advice about feeding soldiers onions to ward off disease when she hit Leale's report, likely rewritten in the neat hand of a clerk.

"I knew it was interesting. What we didn't know was this was novel," Papaioannou said. "We didn't know that this was new, that this was an 1865 report and that it likely hadn't been seen before."

Leale, who was 23 and just six weeks into his medical practice when Lincoln died, never spoke or wrote about his experiences again until 1909 in a speech commemorating the centennial of the president's birth.


Having been the first
of our profession who arrived to the assistan
ce of our late President, and having been
requested by Mrs. Lincoln to do what I
could for him I assumed the charge un
til the Surgeon General and Dr Stone
his family physician arrived, which was
about 20 minutes after we had placed him
in bed in the house of Mr. Peterson opp
site the theatre, and as I remained wi
th him until his death, I humbly sub
mit the following brief account.
I arrived at Fords

This undated photo of a document from the National Archives provided June 5, 2012 by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield, Ill., shows the first page of an original copy of a 21-page clinical report by Dr. Charles A. Leale, who was the first doctor to treat President Abraham Lincoln after he was shot at a Washington theater on the night of April 14, 1865. The report is not in Leale's hand, but is a "true copy" written in the neat and legible hand of a clerk. Inset photo provided by the Library of Congress shows Dr. Charles A. Leale. AP

While Leale's report includes little sentiment, Papaioannou believes the way he described the moments after Booth disappeared shows how deeply he was affected.

"I then heard cries that the `President had been murdered,' which were followed by those of `Kill the murderer' `Shoot him' etc. which came from different parts of the audience," Leale wrote. "I immediately ran to the Presidents box and as soon as the door was opened was admitted and introduced to Mrs. Lincoln when she exclaimed several times, `O Doctor, do what you can for him, do what you can!'"

The Papers of Abraham Lincoln, administered by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, has found and is digitizing 90,000 documents, Stowell said. Leale's report—neither written by or to Lincoln—doesn't technically fall in the group's purview, but Stowell said some exceptions are made for extraordinary finds.

US ends funding for Pakistan's 'Sesame Street'

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The U.S. has terminated funding for a $20 million project to develop a Pakistani version of "Sesame Street" in response to alleged corruption by the local puppet theater working on the initiative, U.S. officials said Tuesday.

The organization in question is the Rafi Peer Theater Workshop, a group based in the city of Lahore that jointly developed the show with Sesame Workshop, the creator of the American series.

The show, which includes Elmo and a host of new Pakistani characters, first aired at the end of last year and was supposed to run for at least three seasons. The U.S. hoped it would improve education in a country where one-third of primary school-age children are not in class. It was also meant to increase tolerance at a time when the influence of radical views is growing.

The U.S. cut off funding for the project and launched an investigation after receiving what it deemed to be credible allegations of fraud and abuse on a telephone hotline set up by the U.S. Agency for International Development in Pakistan, said U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner.

"So rather than to continue to throw good money after bad, we thought it was prudent to cut off this program and wait for the results of the investigation," Toner told reporters in Washington.

A total of $6.7 million had been spent on the show so far out of a total of $20 million that was planned, he said.

The U.S. did not provide details about the alleged corruption.

The Pakistan Today newspaper reported Tuesday that the graft included using the U.S. money to pay off old debts and awarding lucrative contracts to relatives, citing unnamed sources close to the project.

Faizaan Peerzada, the chief operating officer of Rafi Peer and one of several family members who run the organization, denied the corruption allegations. He claimed the U.S. ended its participation because of the lack of additional available funds.

"Rafi Peer is proud of its association with the project and of the quality of children's educational television programming created within Pakistan as a result," the group said in a statement sent to The Associated Press.

If the corruption allegations prove true, it would be an embarrassment for the multibillion-dollar U.S. aid program in Pakistan, which some analysts have criticized for lacking focus and not achieving results.

Rafi Peer plans to seek alternative sources of funding to continue producing the local version of "Sesame Street," which is called "Sim Sim Hamara," or "Our Sim Sim." The original goal was to reach 3 million children, 1 million of whom are out of school.

The show is led by a vivacious 6-year-old girl named Rani who loves cricket and traditional Pakistani music. Her sidekick, Munna, is a 5-year-old boy obsessed with numbers and banging away on Pakistani bongo drums, or tabla. Other new characters include Baily, a kindly donkey who loves to sing, and Haseen O Jameel, a vain crocodile who lives at the bottom of a well.

The action revolves around a mock-up of a Pakistani town, complete with houses, a school and Baaji's dhaba, a small shop and restaurant found in many places in the country. The town also includes a large Banyan tree, known as the wisdom tree in South Asia, in the shade of which the children often play.

Taylor Swift's label cuts innovative digital deal

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Taylor Swift's record label has cut a groundbreaking deal with radio giant Clear Channel that pays the singer and other artists more money now and paves the way for the growth of online radio.

The deal announced Tuesday gives Swift and other artists in the Big Machine Label Group, including Tim McGraw and Reba McEntire, payment for songs played on Clear Channel's traditional radio stations for the first time, starting immediately.

In exchange, the artists agreed to cap their royalties from play on Clear Channel station websites and simulcasts on its iHeart Radio streaming service to a portion of a fixed percentage of revenue.

The deal gives Clear Channel the incentive to boost its online audiences without fear of cost overruns.

Terms on the multi-year deal were not disclosed.

Big Machine CEO Scott Borchetta said that Clear Channel is making the equivalent of a down payment on the future of digital radio. He said the revenue in question was "not millions of dollars" annually, but "substantial" for a small label.

"We're going to more than double our income from Clear Channel in the short term, and they'll make it up on the back end as digital continues to grow," he said.

Clear Channel CEO Bob Pittman said in a statement, "we think this investment is an opportunity worth taking to align our interests in all of our revenue streams and grow digital listening to its full potential."

Performers and their record labels are allowed by law to take a mandatory minimum payment per play online, which equates to a fraction of a penny per listen. But the growth of online listening on mobile devices and in cars is outstripping stations' ability to sell online ads.

Clear Channel is looking to cut similar deals with other labels, while Big Machine is ready to take the model to other radio broadcasters. Currently, the revenue-share model does not apply to so-called custom listening online, where listeners select genres or artists and stream music that is randomly generated within certain guidelines.

The deal is a big win for the record industry, which has been trying to secure royalties from songs played on traditional radio for decades. Since the advent of radio in the 1920s, songwriters have made a little money every time their tunes are played on stations, but performers haven't made a dime, because it was assumed they'd benefit from record sales. The decline of music sales has made radio revenue sharing deals a big priority for artists.

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Snow White and The Huntsman

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Monday thru Thursday		4:05	7:05	

Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

The tale of Snow White is turned on its head with this reimagining starring Kristen Stewart as the fair maiden who has to escape from her fantasy land's Evil Queen (Charlize Theron) with the help of the dashing huntsman who was once ordered to kill her. Rupert Sanders helms from a script by Evan Daugherty. Ian McShane commands the seven dwarves, while the rest are played by Bob Hoskins, Toby Jones, Eddie Marsan, Stephen Graham, Ray Winstone, and Nick Frost.

Men In Black 3

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:45
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:45
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Monday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, and director Barry Sonnenfeld return to the kooky world of the top-secret government agents who protect our planet from hostile aliens in this third entry of the Men in Black film series. This will be the first film in the franchise to be presented in 3D. Flight of the Conchords' Jemaine Clement co-stars as the main baddie, Yaz, with Josh Brolin lending his talents as the younger version of Jones' character.

Chernobyl Diaries

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:30
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:30
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Monday thru Thursday		4:30	7:30	

Jesse McCartney, Carey Van Dyke
Horror • Rated R

Battleship

Friday		4:00	7:00	10:00
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	10:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Monday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Liam Neeson, Taylor Kitsch
Science fiction, War • Rated PG 13

The Dictator

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:40
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Monday thru Thursday		4:25	7:25	

Sacha Baron Cohen, Anna Faris
Comedy • Rated R

Dark Shadows

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Monday thru Thursday		4:15	7:15	

Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter
Horror • Rated PG 13

Marvel's The Avengers

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Monday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Robert Downey, Jr., Chris Evans, Samuel L. Jackson
Action • Rated PG 13

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No record of TV singer's claimed combat injury

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—A singer who appeared on the NBC show "America's Got Talent" and claimed he was injured during a grenade blast in Afghanistan has no military record of his purported combat injuries, the Minnesota National Guard said Tuesday.

Timothy Michael Poe appeared on the nationally televised show Monday. He told the judges he spent 14 years in the military, and suffered a broken back and brain injury when he was hit by a grenade in Afghanistan in 2009.

"I had volunteered for a team to go out and clear buildings and help out with the wounded," Poe said during a taped interview on the show. "There was a guy who come up with a rocket-propelled grenade. I saw it coming down, and by the time I turned and went to jump on top of my guys, I yelled 'grenade' and the blast had hit me."

According to military records, Poe served with the Minnesota Army National Guard from December 2002 through May 2011, working as a supply specialist. Records show he was deployed in Kosovo from Oct. 10, 2007 to July 15, 2008, and then served in Afghanistan for about a month in 2009.

"Sgt. Poe's official military records do not indicate that he was injured by a grenade in combat while serving in Afghanistan in 2009, as he reports," Lt. Col. Kevin Olson, a spokesman for the Minnesota National Guard, said in a statement.

Olson noted that Poe did not receive the Purple Heart, which is given to those who are injured in enemy combat. Poe didn't claim he had received the award.

"We looked very closely at his record," Olson said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "We did not find something to substantiate what he said."

An NBC spokeswoman said the network and Poe had no comment.

Poe told the judges that he was from San Antonio, Texas. The television show listed his age as 35.

Poe had a stutter when he spoke with the judges, which he attributed to his brain injury. The stutter disappeared when he sang. He also didn't appear to stutter when he spoke with the show's host after his performance.

When he was describing his injury, Poe said during the video clip: "When I was laying there I thought I'd never see my daughter walk down the aisle or throw the baseball with my son or be able to hold them and see them. ... I didn't want my life to be over."

He said singing has helped him deal with the injury.

"I'm just happy to be here," he told the three celebrity judges, who each gave him a 'yes' vote to advance to the show's next round.

Actress Amanda Bynes charged with DUI in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles prosecutors have charged actress Amanda Bynes with driving under the influence roughly two months after authorities say she grazed a sheriff's patrol car in an early morning accident.

The 26-year-old will be arraigned Wednesday morning in Beverly Hills but doesn't have to attend the hearing. Instead, she can have a lawyer enter a plea. Bynes was arrested April 6 after authorities say she scraped a patrol car making a turn.

The misdemeanor complaint filed Tuesday alleges she refused to take a test at the time that could've determined whether she was drunk or under the influence of drugs. Because of her refusal, authorities may suspend her driver's license for a year.

Her publicist, Melissa Raubvogel, didn't immediately return an email.

Bynes appeared in the Nickelodeon series "What I Like About You" and the film "Easy A."

In this Sept. 13, 2009 file photo, Amanda Bynes arrives at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York.
AP

Woman on MTV's 'Teen Mom' gets 5 years in prison

ANDERSON, Ind. (AP)—An Indiana woman featured on MTV's reality show "Teen Mom" has been sentenced to five years in prison after opting out of a drug-treatment program.

Amber Portwood pleaded guilty in February to felony possession of a controlled substance and admitted violating her probation. The 22-year-old avoided prison by entering a drug rehabilitation program.

But on Tuesday, after she quit the program, a Madison County judge sentenced her to the five-year term she originally faced.

Prosecutor Rodney Cummings tells The Indianapolis Star that Portwood said she just couldn't do it and "wanted out of the program."

Her attorney didn't return messages seeking comment.

Portwood received probation in 2010, after pleading guilty to domestic battery charges stemming from an incident with her now 3-year-old daughter's father that appeared on the MTV show.

'Book of Mormon' fans gather in NY for free show

NEW YORK (AP)—Lauren Bowling will be flying in all the way from Atlanta. Billy Peterson will be getting up at 3 a.m. to catch a train into the city. Asher Bailey made sure he'd be able to skip work—he invited his boss.

All three have secured what must be the Broadway equivalent of the Golden Ticket tucked in a Wonka Bar: a free pair of seats to the hit musical "The Book of Mormon."

Producers of the show are celebrating its one-year anniversary on Wednesday by handing out free seats to a special matinee performance for winners of a special lottery.

"I'm so excited about this show, you have no idea," said Peterson, 34, who lives in Lake Placid, N.Y., and will have to drive to Albany in the wee hours to catch a train to Manhattan's Penn Station.

Each lottery winner gets two seats, and Peterson has invited his estranged brother, whom he hasn't seen since 1999.

"I don't know what we'll do, but we'll have fun," he said.

Bowling, a 25-year-old aspiring writer, will be traveling even further than upstate New York. She'll be coming from Birmingham, Ala., where she just relocated after several years living in New York. She figures she tried to get into see "The Book of Mormon" 10 times.

"I just left New York, and then three weeks later I get an email saying that I finally got into the show," Bowling said with a laugh. "That's just the way life works."

She is taking her mother, and the two will fly back after dinner in the city.

The wildly popular musical is one of the hardest tickets to get even a year after opening, and last week it boasted an average ticket price of $183, with premium seats going as high as $477.

Daily lotteries for a small number of $32 tickets have attracted as many as 600 people at some performances outside the 1,066-seat Eugene O'Neill Theatre. The special free matinee attracted plenty of attention: From March to May, when the sweepstakes was open, about 10,000 fans entered.

Jessica Harrop had Wednesday's fan performance date circled on her calendar even before she landed tickets. The 26-year-old TV producer, who specializes in science programs, had tried 16 times previously to win lottery tickets.

"It was getting frustrating," she said. "I sort of told myself I was going to stop trying and just spend the money and buy tickets soon. This was kind of the last shot at getting cheap tickets."

Her boss nicely gave her the day off, and she invited as her guest her younger sister, who is coming up from Washington, D.C. It just so happens that Harrop had just given her sister the cast album from the show. Now, little sis gets to see it live.

Bailey is an actor and nanny who, with his husband, tried to land tickets to see the show about 50 times.

"My husband and I more or less refer to it as `Let's-go-lose-the-lottery-and-have-dinner,'" he joked. "We're very excited to have finally won something."

It was actually Bailey's husband, a teacher, who learned by email that he'd won a pair of seats to "The Book of Mormon" but wasn't sure he'd be able to take the time off from work.

"I was thinking of threatening divorce," Bailey said laughing.

Then Bailey also won, meaning the couple has a wealth of seats.

John Mayer criticizes Taylor Swift for 'Dear John'

NEW YORK (AP)—Taylor Swift has never revealed her target in the scathing song "Dear John," but John Mayer's pretty sure it was about him—and he doesn't think that's cool.

In a new Rolling Stone interview, Mayer called "Dear John" cheap songwriting and said it made him feel terrible—and he didn't deserve it.

Swift's song from the multi-platinum "Speak Now" album dresses down a former boyfriend. Swift has never confirmed that the pair dated and when asked pointedly refused to say that song was about Mayer.

Mayer says he did nothing to deserve the song and says Swift—his former musical collaborator—kicked him when he was down.

Mayer's "Born and Raised," his first album in three years, debuted as the nation's best-selling album last week.

Debra Messing files to divorce writer husband

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Debra Messing has filed for divorce from her writer-producer husband.

The former "Will and Grace" star filed her petition in Los Angeles on Tuesday, citing irreconcilable differences.

Messing married Daniel Zelman, a writer and executive producer of the show "Damages," in September 2000, but the couple separated in February 2010.

They have an 8-year-old son and she is seeking joint custody. Her petition requests that Zelman pay her attorney fees and spousal support.

Messing currently appears on the NBC series "Smash."

The filing was first reported by celebrity website TMZ.

AP

In this Saturday, Jan. 24, 2009 file photo, producer Daniel Zelman and wife actress Debra Messing, right, arrive at the 20th Annual Producers Guild Awards, in Los Angeles.

Sheryl Crow has a benign brain tumor

AP

This April 18, 2012 file photo shows musician Sheryl Crow at the Entertainment Industry Foundation's "Unforgettable Evening" in Beverly Hills, Calif.

NEW YORK (AP)—Sheryl Crow revealed that she has a benign brain tumor, but her rep says it's nothing to be alarmed about.

The 50-year-old told an audience about her condition at a recent concert, but her representative, Christine Wolff, said it's very common.

The tumor is a meningioma, and it's typically benign and develops from the protective linings of the brain and spinal cord.

Wolff said that Crow is doing great and is healthy and happy.

Crow battled breast cancer several years back. She's currently on a nationwide tour.

Paris Jackson talks to Oprah for Sunday interview

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson's daughter, Paris, talks about her late father in an interview with Oprah Winfrey airing Sunday.

Paris Jackson, 14, will be featured on "Oprah's Next Chapter," the channel said Tuesday. She and Winfrey discuss how the teenager is faring three years after the 2009 death of her pop star father.

"It never gets easier," Paris says in a promotional spot aired by OWN, which also shows Winfrey asking if Michael Jackson wanted her to have "a quote `normal' life."

Paris and her brothers, Prince and Blanket, were closely sheltered during Jackson's life but have been in the public eye since, appearing onstage at Grammy Awards and on other TV shows.

AP

This undated image released by Harpo, Inc. shows host Oprah Winfrey posing with Paris Jackson, daughter of the late pop icon Michael Jackson in Los Angeles.

"Oprah's Next Chapter," which also will include an interview with Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson, will air at 9 p.m. EDT Sunday on OWN.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Tina Fey big winner at Audie Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Tina Fey, Jane Fonda and William Shatner are now award winners in the book world. On Tuesday night, Fey received Audie Awards for Audio Book of the Year and best Biography/Memoir for her narration of her million-selling "Bossypants." Fonda won in the Personal Development category as the reader of her own "Prime Time." Shatner was cited in Humor for "Shatner's Rules." An audiobook about the Titanic, "The Watch That Ends the Night," won for Distinguished Achievement in Production. Hope Davis' narration of Ann Patchett's "State of Wonder" won for literary fiction and Will Patton's reading of James Lee Burke's "Feast Day of Fools" won for mystery. The awards, in more than 25 categories, were sponsored by the Audio Publishers Association.

Bruce and Demi's daughter Scout arrested in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—New York City police say the underage daughter of Demi Moore and Bruce Willis was caught drinking in public and carrying fake identification. The New York Police Department said Tuesday that officers found 20-year-old Scout Willis sipping a beer Monday evening in Union Square in violation of an open-container law. Police say she also showed them a fake ID—a misdemeanor. Willis was arrested and taken to a local police station and released with a ticket ordering her to appear in court on July 21. Bruce Willis' representative declined to comment on the arrest. Scout is the second of Moore and Willis' three daughters together. The couple divorced in 2000.

In Web video, 'The Wire' turned into a musical

NEW YORK (AP)—Omar, the shotgun-toting stick-up man of "The Wire," is finally getting his chance to belt out a solo. "The Wire: The Musical" debuted Tuesday as a Web video for the site Funny Or Die. The cast of the HBO drama reprises their roles in a mock song-and-dance adaptation of the famously gritty series about urban life and the drug war. Among the "Wire" actors who participate are Michael Kenneth Williams, Sonja "Kima" Sohn, Andre "Bubbles" Royo, Felicia "Snoop" Pearson and Larry "D'Angelo" Gillard Jr. The video appears as a four-minute commercial that advertises comically sunny songs like "Omar's Comin,'" "It's All in the Game" and "I'm Just a Burner"—a sad lament from one of the disposable cellphones used by the drug dealers on the show.

Potluck guest can't stomach being given an assignment

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I were invited to a dinner party at a couple's home. We accepted the invitation with pleasure, only to be told afterward that it was going to be a "potluck."

My husband and I were raised to never go to someone's home empty-handed, so we were happy to bring a dish to contribute to the meal. When I called the hostess to ask if we could bring dessert or perhaps an appetizer, she informed me that the menu had already been planned and we were assigned a side dish neither of us had ever heard of. Then she told me she would email me the recipe.

Abby, I was shocked and, frankly, offended. I would never tell a guest what to bring and what recipe to follow. When my husband told me he was willing to give the dish a try, I told him I would not attend a dinner party where I was commanded to bring a specific dish.

My husband stayed home with me that evening, but says he can't understand what the big deal was. Was I wrong to refuse to participate? Or should I have gone along with the program and kept my mouth shut?

LOST MY APPETITE

DEAR LOST: Having accepted the invitation you should have gone to the dinner, taken the side dish and made the best of it. You may have missed out on a memorable and enjoyable evening.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I was in a passionate relationship for three years with my first real boyfriend. We were very young and desperately in love. I adored him completely, without hesitation. Then we had some irreconcilable differences and parted.

I went though a period of self-reflection and didn't date again for almost four years. During that period, I thought and prayed. Then I met someone special, "Zack." We have been seeing each other for five years now, and our relationship is solid. It's wonderful in every aspect—except that I am not in love with him.

We plan to be married in six months. I'm not sure if it's the right thing to do though. I have hesitated for years despite pressure from my family.

I enjoy spending time with Zack more than with anyone else. We understand each other and he knows me so well that it's uncanny. We're compatible with the same interests and similar beliefs.

Zack knows that I love him but am not "in love" with him, but he still wants to marry me. Is it wrong to marry your best friend?

UNSURE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR UNSURE: No, it's not wrong to marry your best friend. But because you have reservations about marrying Zack, you should be honest and break the engagement. It will be less painful for both of you and far cheaper than divorce.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: The grandfather of a friend recently died. The sister of this friend and I had dated not long ago. I would like to send a condolence card to the family. Would it be proper to send one card addressed to "The Smiths" or should I send a card to the family and a separate one to "Lisa" (the woman I dated)?

JAY

DEAR JAY: You are a thoughtful person. A letter or card of condolence should be sent to the family, and a separate condolence should be sent to Lisa.

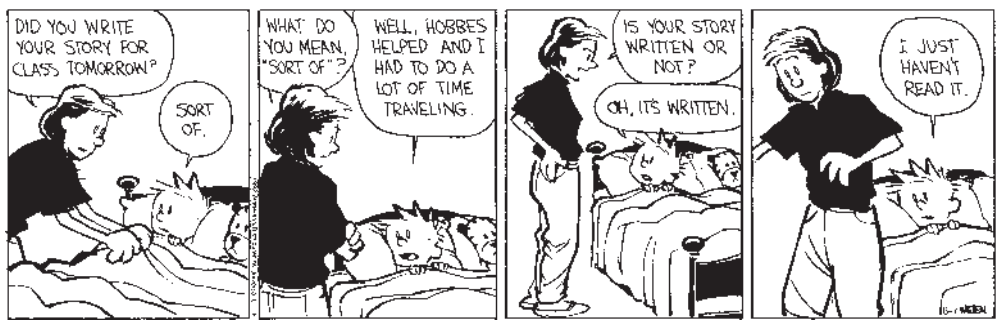
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

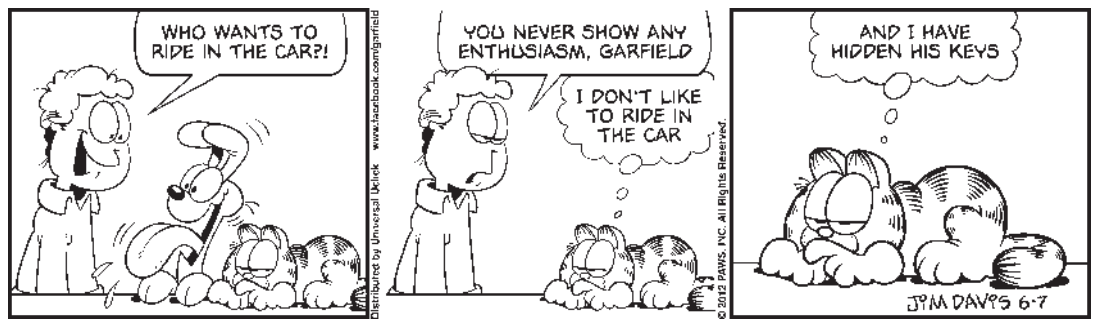
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


DID YOU WRITE YOUR STORY FOR CLASS TOMORROW?
SORT OF.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SORT OF"?
WELL, HOBBES HELPED AND I HAD TO DO A LOT OF TIME TRAVELING.
IS YOUR STORY WRITTEN OR NOT?
OH, IT'S WRITTEN.
I JUST HAVEN'T READ IT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


WHO WANTS TO RIDE IN THE CAR?!
YOU NEVER SHOW ANY ENTHUSIASM, GARFIELD
I DON'T LIKE TO RIDE IN THE CAR
AND I HAVE HIDDEN HIS KEYS
JIM DAVIS 6-7
Distributed by Universal Uclick www.facebook.com/garfield
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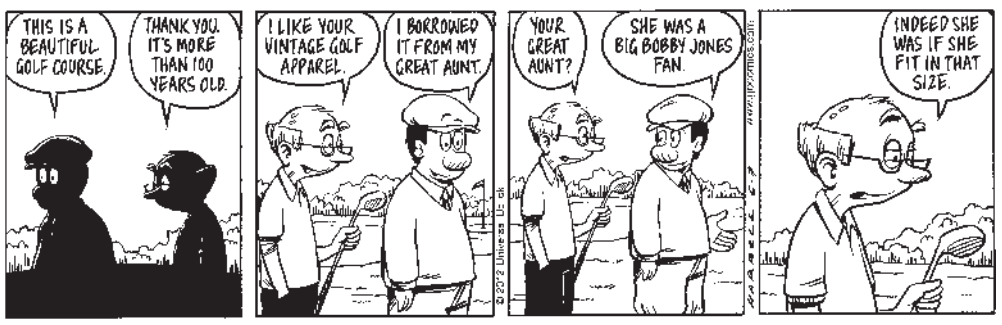
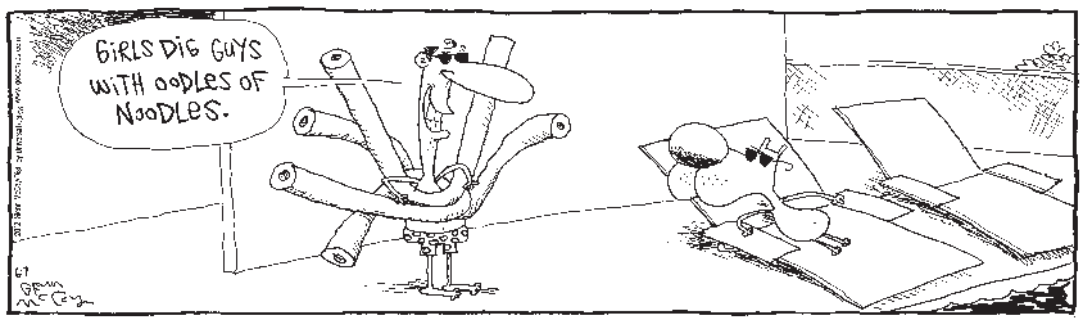
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL GOLF COURSE.
THANK YOU. IT'S MORE THAN 100 YEARS OLD.
I LIKE YOUR VINTAGE GOLF APPAREL.
I BORROWED IT FROM MY GREAT AUNT.
YOUR GREAT AUNT?
SHE WAS A BIG BOBBY JONES FAN.
INDEED SHE WAS IF SHE FIT IN THAT SIZE.
© 2012 Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pouch
4 Mast
8 Genuine (Ger.)
12 Altar affirmative
13 Godly Greek cupbearer
14 Winged
15 Produced as by magic
17 Anger
18 Perch
19 Countdown follow-up
21 Hawaiian garment
24 Homer's interjection
25 Shade tree
26 Omega preceder
28 Right-hand page
32 Freshly
34 Elev.
36 Part of speech
37 Low point
39 Tease
41 Peacock network
42 Drunkard
44 Morning brew
46 St. Louis' — Arch
50 Actor Gulager
51 Awe-struck
52 Created a bruise
56 Carte
57 Sandwich cookie
58 A Gabor sister
59 Nervous
60 Crystal gazer
61 Lair

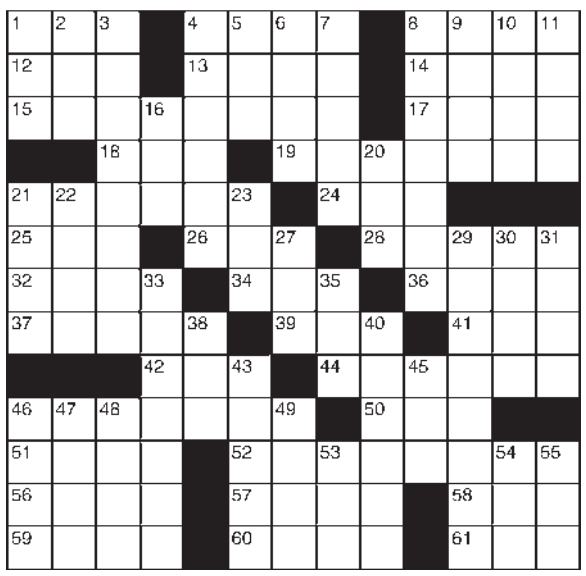
DOWN

1 Uncorrected, in a text
2 Big bother
3 Ate
4 "Quiet!"
5 Apiece
6 First victim
7 Made over
8 Made of clay
9 Advertising award
10 50 percent
11 Not kosher
16 Muppet master Henson
20 Supporting
21 Nasty
22 Arm bone
23 N.A. nation
27 Sort
29 Addled
30 Toothpaste container
31 Formerly
33 Smart aleck
35 — -tac-toe
38 Tier
40 Medic
43 Mexican entrees
45 Winter ailment
46 Ready for anything
47 On in years
48 Chinese gang
49 Bygone times
53 Born
54 Prior night
55 Dapper fellow?

Solution time: 25 mins.

I	M	P	■	C	H	E	N	■	J	A	B	S
B	A	A	■	R	O	M	E	■	I	L	I	E
I	L	L	■	E	D	U	C	A	T	I	O	N
S	T	E	C	D	■	■	K	I	N	■	■	■
■	■	■	R	I	D	S	■	M	E	S	O	N
V	A	C	A	T	I	O	N	■	Y	A	L	E
O	B	I	■	S	A	D	I	E	■	R	I	O
W	E	A	L	■	L	O	C	A	T	I	O	N
S	T	O	O	L	■	M	E	T	H	■	■	■
■	■	■	W	E	S	■	■	I	O	N	I	C
A	V	O	C	A	T	I	O	N	■	O	D	E
L	A	V	A	■	E	D	I	T	■	S	O	L
E	T	A	L	■	P	O	L	O	■	E	L	L

Yesterday's answer 6-7



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michael Cera, 24; Anna Kournikova, 31; Bill Hader, 34; Liam Neeson, 60.

Happy Birthday: Look at the big picture and you'll recognize a pattern. Putting the pieces of the puzzle together will lead to a realization of what's required to reach your goals. Getting angry or making a fuss will slow you down, but plowing ahead on your own will lead to your destiny of choice. Your numbers are 2, 12, 24, 27, 30, 34, 49.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let anyone take you for granted. What you are offered and what you receive will not be the same. Stay focused and nurture partnerships that are equal and can bring you greater success and happiness. Love is in the stars. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Work, ethics and discipline will pay off. It's important to share your plans and to be clear about your motives or intentions. What you learn through conversations will be priceless. Think big, but move forward frugally. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Stick to whatever budget you set. Put your money in a safe place where you will not be tempted to use it inappropriately. You will gain greater knowledge and awareness if you study, listen or gain experience in a field that interests you. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Information will be easy to come by, but it may not be accurate or helpful. Decipher what you can use to your advantage and what is a waste of time. Following someone else will not work in your favor. Do your own thing. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Honor favors, but don't be too proud to ask for something in return. A quiet, reserved approach to personal aspects of your life will bring you the highest returns. Opportunity will arise due to your dedicated offering to a cause you care about. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Focus on self-improvement and networking. You can make changes that will open a window of opportunity. Don't let frustration hold you back or cause you to miss out on a good deal. Anger won't help you, but constructive action will. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Make a move physically, financially or emotionally. Choose what works for you and head for the finish line. Now is not the time to procrastinate. You can make lifestyle improvements and enhance your skills and attitude. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Money and help are on the way. You will gain through the company you keep and the friends and relatives you have helped in the past. An emotional situation will also bring you rewards. You can stabilize your life and build a brighter future. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Take a moment to consider the past and present. Your future will be much clearer, and you will come up with a plan to help you move onward and upward. Alterations to your living arrangement will enhance your love life. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't reveal too much about your plans. Get everything in order first. Socializing will lead to an interesting idea and a long-term relationship with someone who shares your vision. Offering knowledge will bring a cash injection. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Concentrate on financial goals. Stabilizing your personal and professional position will bring the boost you need to get ahead. Romance is highlighted, and greater confidence and motivation will result from the closeness you share. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Choose your friends and associates wisely. Don't hide facts. Look at the big picture and put your ego aside. Stubbornness will not bring good results, but compromise will. The possibilities are endless if you strive for unity and equality. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are dedicated, opportunistic and original. You attract and welcome challenges.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7		4		9		6	
2				3				1
7			9		8			3
	6						1	
3			2		7			5
1				2				8
	9		3		6		7	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	4	9	3	7	1	2	8	5
5	7	1	2	8	6	9	4	3
2	3	8	4	9	5	7	6	1
7	1	2	9	5	4	6	3	8
8	5	3	1	6	2	4	7	9
4	9	6	8	3	7	1	5	2
1	2	7	5	4	3	8	9	6
3	8	4	6	2	9	5	1	7
9	6	5	7	1	8	3	2	4

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

GIVE SOMEONE A ROSE TODAY Solution: 8 letters

C	R	A	S	A	V	E	G	T	O	H	S	N	C	S
E	O	D	R	P	V	E	N	U	S	D	E	E	H	W
L	M	M	O	R	E	S	I	Z	E	D	D	A	A	H
E	A	I	P	Z	A	C	V	R	R	A	R	M	R	I
B	N	R	R	A	E	N	I	A	R	E	O	E	I	T
R	C	A	I	O	S	N	G	A	S	O	S	S	T	E
A	E	T	C	R	S	S	P	E	L	E	E	S	I	S
T	C	I	K	A	T	E	I	B	M	O	S	A	E	E
E	A	O	L	N	E	E	B	O	B	E	V	G	S	A
X	E	N	E	G	M	E	P	U	N	T	N	E	C	S
P	P	S	S	E	A	E	S	A	D	G	Y	T	E	O
R	I	T	E	U	N	H	L	A	H	S	P	S	S	N
E	N	H	T	E	E	T	R	O	H	S	P	O	E	A
S	K	Y	D	S	D	K	J	U	N	E	A	C	L	L
S	G	N	I	R	P	S	E	L	I	G	H	T	L	R

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Admiration, Arrangements, Beauty, Bloom, Bushes, Celebrate, Charities, Compassion, Cost, Dark, Dozen, Express, Garden, Giving, Happy, Heart, June, Light, Long, Love, Message, Opened, Orange, Parade, Peace, Pink, Prickles, Reds, Romance, Rosebuds, Roses, Save, Scent, Seasonal, Seeds, Sell, Shape, Share, Short, Size, Special, Spring, Stem, Vases, Venus, White

Yesterday's Answer: Reminders

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 or 35 (each 160 pages) send $8.95 (includes S/H) for each book desired (U.S. funds only) to: Puzzle Me Publications, P.O. Box 8747, Shawnee Mission, KS 66208 (Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.) Or call toll-free 1-800-642-8462. Order online at www.puzzlemepublications.com. Each volume 64 pages, 8½" x 11" size, 2 to a page.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution:
Friends in high places

EMPLOYMENT

(1) Building Maintenance. Part-time only. Minimum salary. Three Way International Inc. Tel. 788-7270

WANTED TO BUY

Need cash fast??? We want to buy your OnePass miles or Skymiles!!! Call 888-2205.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Anaks Condo, 2BRs, washer/dryer, ceiling fans, a/c, storage, r/o water, swimming pool, tennis court, gated, 24/7 security. Ideal location, close to central Garapan. Call Ron Barrineau 322-4758 or 483-4785.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
2 - PHYSICAL THERAPIST
Please drop resume to the main office located in Finasisu, former LISS.
Valley of Glory Investment (USA) Corp.
PMB 62 Box 10003, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: 288-9583
Contact Person: **Mr. Kang**

GARAGE SALE

Leaving Island, many household items to sell!

WHEN: Saturday, June 9, 2012
TIME: 8:00am
LOCATION: Red and white house on the hill behind the Big Blue water tank, in Papago at the intersection of Isa Drive and Mulberry Lane. House is located between Santos Acres and San Vicente Post Office. Signs will be posted for guide.

Call 483-5324 for directions.

Help Wanted

Housekeeper/Caregiver

➤ Must have a U.S. Passport or Greencard.

➤ Willing to relocate/work in Hawaii.

Please send resume and contact information to: caregiver.670@gmail.com

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MIAO WANG LARIMER Petitioner,	)	FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0205
vs.	)	**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**
KELLY S. LARIMER Respondent	)	

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 1192 P.O. Box 10003 Saipan MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 30th day of April, 2012

/s/ Clerk of Court

JOON CORPORATION is looking for:

DANCERS

Qualifications: High school graduate. A minimum of five years of work-related skill, knowledge or experience. Willing to work late hours.

Duties: Perform in musical productions. Present folk, ethnic, tap, jazz or other popular kinds of dance. May perform as part of a group or solo. Perform other related duties that may be assigned.

Applications may be submitted to Joon Corp. dba King's Club at Garapan, Saipan or email cross_road_44@hotmail.com, Tel. No. 233-0353 or 483-5382
All applications must be accompanied by a current resume.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: General Manager
Work Location: Saipan Sanko Lounge (1st Floor of DFS Galleria, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950)
Working Hours: 40 hrs/week + overtime
Wage: $66,622.00/year [PW Tracking#: P-100-12087-233370]
Job Duties: Plan, direct, & coordinate operations of the company. Formulates policies, manage daily operations. Oversee activity directly related to making services. Review financial statements and other performance data to measure productivity & goal achievement. Manage staffs, preparing work schedules, and assigning specific duties as well as other related duties.
Requirements: High School diploma; Minimum 3 months of trainings on travel agency administrations, and minimum 2 years of experience as a general manager of a travel agent; Ability to speak, read & write both English and Japanese fluently in order to accommodate tourist customers & any business associates.
Equal Opportunity Employer: Saipan Sanko Transportation, Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, genetic, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services, and complies with the provisions of the human rights act applicable to CNMI.

Saipan Sanko Transportation, Inc.
P.O. BOX 502328, Saipan, MP 96950
TEL: (670) 234-3363 attn: Diego San Nicolas

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 03-2012

Opening date: May 24, 2012 **Closing date: June 7, 2012**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position: (1) Rota Ports Manager

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. For Rota vacancy, applications may be picked up at the CPA's Administration Office of the Rota International Airport; and for Tinian's vacancy, applications may be picked up at CPA's Administration Office of the Tinian International Airport; or it may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30p.m., June 7, 2012.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact Ms. Addy C. Manahane by email at acmanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Moving Sale

Friday and Saturday June 8, and 9, 2012. 8:00AM to 5:00PM

Dining Table w/4 chairs, Shelves, Drawer, Slightly Used Door, Computer Table, Plates, Cups & Glasses, Cooler, Aquarium, Fighting Fish, Clothing Materials, Tin roof, potted flower plants, etc…

No Early Birds

Inside Reflexology in Chalan Kanoa District #2
FOLLOW SIGN

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

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Celtics take control of East, beat Heat, 94-90

MIAMI (AP)—A week ago, the Boston Celtics were too old.

Three games later, they're one win away from the NBA finals.

And Miami—the team that was constructed with hopes of supplanting Boston as the power in the Eastern Conference—is suddenly in big trouble.

Kevin Garnett finished with 26 points and 11 rebounds, Paul Pierce scored 19—including a huge 3-pointer over LeBron James' outstretched arm with 52.9 seconds left—and the Celtics beat the Heat 94-90 on Tuesday night, taking a 3-2 lead in the East finals that now shift to Boston for Game 6 on Thursday night.

"We've done nothing," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "We're playing a heck of a basketball team. So just because we're going to Boston, I told them, we have to play. They're not going to give it to us. We have to go get it."

James finished with 30 points and 13 rebounds for Miami, though he went 8 minutes without scoring in the final quarter. Dwyane Wade scored 27 for the Heat, who got no more than nine from anyone else.

"We wouldn't want to be in this situation but we never get too high or too low in a series," James said. "We had an opportunity to come home and take a lead, but we didn't. So we have to go up to Boston and win a game."

Pierce's 3 put Boston up 90-86. Miami got within two points twice, and argued that it should have had a steal with 8.8 seconds left. Instead, a foul was called on Udonis Haslem, Garnett made two free throws, and the Celtics knew they had just stolen one on Miami's home floor.

AP

Boston Celtics' Paul Pierce (34) pumps his fist after a call was reversed to give the Celtics possession of the ball in the closing minutes of the fourth quarter in Game 5 of their NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals playoff series against the Miami Heat, Tuesday, June 5, 2012, in Miami.

Now all they need is one home win of their own to clinch a trip to either Oklahoma City or San Antonio for Game 1 of the NBA finals. The title series starts June 12.

"Right now," Celtics guard Ray Allen said, "the next game is Game 7."

The Celtics were down by 13 points in the second quarter, then down nine in the third, and answered both times—prevailing on a night where they shot just 41 percent, and got outrebounded 49-39.

"We stayed with it," Garnett said. "We had a rough first quarter, first half. We got our stops and made our run ourselves. And when we had to, we had stops."

Allen and Mickael Pietrus scored 13 apiece for the Celtics, who got 10 from Brandon Bass. Pietrus hit two huge 3-pointers in the fourth quarter for Boston, which remained perfect with this core when facing maybe the most pivotal situation a best-of-seven can offer - a Game 5 with a series tied 2-2.

Pierce, Garnett, Rajon Rondo and Ray Allen are now 9-0 in that scenario.

"We came in with the right focus," Pierce said. "That was key for us."

So Game 5s are magical for Boston. Sometimes, they are for James as well.

And sometimes—this one included—they're not.

James' most memorable moments have come in Game 5s, like the epic 48 points where he just carried Cleveland on every possession down the stretch at Detroit in 2007, and the 120-88 loss to the Celtics in 2010, his last home game with the Cavaliers.

This one offered more theater, of course. James hit a 3-pointer to give Miami a two-point lead with 8:10 left, closed out on Pierce to force an airball on the next possession, and eventually Miami pushed the margin out to 78-72 on a layup by Wade with 6:17 to play. On that play, James looked gassed, gasping for air as he stood near the baseline.

Those might have been the last gasps the Miami home crowd sees this season. Boston closed on a 22-12 run.

"Every time we got them down, they made runs," James said. "They made us stagnant offensively, got stops and got back in the game."

Boston tied the game twice early in the third quarter, before Miami peeled off nine straight points to go up 59-50. Four players scored for the Heat during that quick burst, highlighted by Shane Battier's corner 3-pointer and a lazy turnover from Rondo, who threw the ball into the backcourt without being pressured by any Miami defender.

But just as they did in the first half when Miami looked poised to pull away, the Celtics rallied—and then some. A 15-1 run gave the Celtics a truckload of momentum and 65-60 lead going into the fourth, capped by Keyon Dooling connecting on a 3-pointer from near the Miami bench with 2 seconds left.

There were four lead changes in the fourth quarter, and the game was tied for the final time when Wade made an acrobatic layup with 1:39 to play.

Miami never led again.

"We played hard," Battier said. "We just didn't play intelligent."

Miami didn't lead by more than eight points at any time in the three previous games of the series. The Heat changed that quickly, and maybe it was fitting that Chris Bosh got them their first double-digit advantage since Game 1.

Djokovic, Federer come back, set French rematch

PARIS (AP)—As the chilly evening air swirled, and raindrops fell, and the thousands of spectators pulling for his opponent hushed, Novak Djokovic stood a single point from exiting the French Open.

A single point from losing to France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the quarterfinals at Roland Garros.

A single point from losing the chance to pursue a fourth consecutive Grand Slam title, something no man has done in 43 years.

Steeling himself with so much at stake, Djokovic came through, taking that crucial point thanks to an overhead that skimmed off the baseline to set up a putaway volley. Seconds later, he faced the same predicament—one point from defeat—and came through again, this time with a leaping forehand that barely landed in. All told, Djokovic faced four match points against Tsonga and won each one, extending the contest until seizing control for good.

Djokovic won his 26th Grand Slam match in a row Tuesday, coming back and beating the fifth-seeded Tsonga 6-1, 5-7, 5-7, 7-6 (6), 6-1 to set up a French Open rematch against 16-time major champion Roger Federer. A year ago in the semifinals at Roland Garros, Federer ended Djokovic's 43-match winning streak, the last time the Serb lost at one of tennis' four most important tournaments.

"Tennis is very mental. Lots of emotions," said the No. 1-ranked Djokovic, who won Wimbledon last July, the U.S. Open last September, and the Australian Open in January. "If you're playing a top player, a home favorite, and you have a crowd that's supporting him, you have to face these things. Physically, we're all fit, all hitting the ball well. But mentally, it's just a matter of a point here, a point there. That's sport. The one that mentally pushes more in some moments—and gets a bit lucky—gets the win."

Federer also fashioned a come-from-behind victory, and while he never was confronted with a match point, he did drop the first two sets before getting past No. 9 Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina 3-6, 6-7 (4), 6-2, 6-0, 6-3.

After taking that big lead, del Potro—who upset Federer in the 2009 U.S. Open final—appeared to be hampered increasingly by a left knee that was heavily wrapped in white tape, although he refused to place any blame there afterward.

"He called the trainer, but he didn't take a timeout, so I didn't know what they were talking about, if he got painkillers, or what happened. So I was just trying to focus on me, really, because I was in trouble. He wasn't," said Federer, who won his only French Open title in 2009.

"Maybe his knee was (a problem). I don't know," Federer continued. "But doesn't matter how bad that knee is. Maybe he can just sit on it and just say, `OK, here, take the two next sets ... and then I'll come back in the fifth set and I will destroy you.'"

The pivotal moment, then, was the fifth set's opening game, a 10-minute test. Del Potro held a break point, but Federer dismissed it with a forehand winner, then held.

Del Potro called that his "chance to win," and deemed Federer's response there "huge."

The pair of riveting five-set men's quarterfinals were quite a feast for fans after the light fare of the women's straight-set quarterfinals.

No. 21 Sara Errani of Italy entered Tuesday with an 0-28 record against top-10 opponents but reached her first Grand Slam semifinal by defeating No. 10 Angelique Kerber of Germany 6-3, 7-6 (2). Errani's best results have come in doubles, and she's also into the French Open semifinals of that event with Roberta Vinci.

Errani now faces U.S. Open champion Sam Stosur, who is seeded sixth. Stosur eliminated No. 15 Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia 6-4, 6-1, taking the last six games and 13 of 14 points in one stretch. Asked whether she's surprised Errani made it this far, Stosur replied: "No, not necessarily."

The last quarterfinals are Wednesday: No. 2 Maria Sharapova vs. No. 23 Kaia Kanepi, No. 4 Petra Kvitova vs. 142nd-ranked qualifier Yaroslava Shvedova, No. 2 Rafael Nadal vs. No. 12 Nicolas Almagro, and No. 4 Andy Murray vs. No. 6 David Ferrer.

Nadal is trying to become the first man to win seven French Open championships.

Djokovic is chasing history, too: Only two men, Don Budge in 1938 and Rod Laver in 1962 and 1969, claimed four major trophies in succession. They did it within a calendar year. Djokovic's feat wouldn't be considered a true Grand Slam because it's spread over two seasons, but it would be remarkable, nonetheless.

After Djokovic cruised through his first seven service games Tuesday, winning 29 of 36 points, Tsonga got back into the match by breaking twice late in the second set, including the last game, drawing a standing ovation at Court Philippe Chatrier.

"That's when the momentum changed," Djokovic said.

Fast-forward to the end of the third set, and again, Tsonga broke Djokovic in the final game, again earning a long, loud celebration in the stands.

But Djokovic wouldn't go quietly.

About 10 minutes after erasing Tsonga's first two match points at 5-4 in the fourth set, Djokovic dealt with two more at 6-5. He got some help on No. 3, when Tsonga dumped a forehand into the net. Djokovic slammed home an overhead near a line on No. 4. When he held serve to 6-all, Djokovic roared.

Tsonga missed a backhand to end the ensuing tiebreaker, sending them to a fifth set, and Djokovic strutted to the changeover, baring his teeth and shaking his right fist. When Djokovic's backhand closed the match 4 hours, 9 minutes after it began, he reared back on his heels and pumped both arms, then pounded his chest.

"As a tennis player, this is what you live for," he said. "This is what you practice for all these years."

Afterward, the crowd chanted Tsonga's name, trying to lift the spirits of a player who hoped to give France its first male champion at a Grand Slam tournament since Yannick Noah in Paris in 1983. Tsonga sat on his green bench, a towel covering his head.

"I was tired. I was frustrated. I was disappointed," said Tsonga, who lost to Djokovic in the 2008 Australian Open final. "You want to break your racket. You want to shout. You want to cry. You want to laugh and say, `Oh, come on. That's a joke. How could I lose this match?'"

Djokovic has a way of making foes wonder.

Next in his way is Federer. About three months after last year's epic French Open semifinal, they met in the U.S. Open semifinals, and Djokovic erased two match points that day en route to the championship.

So the question after Tuesday's escape act was obvious: How does Djokovic manage to be at his best when the pressure is greatest?

"There is really not any rational explanation or a word that can describe what you're supposed to do when you're match points down or when you're losing and you're very close to lose the match," Djokovic said. "It's, I guess, trying to be mentally tough and believing in your shots."

Martin hits slam, Pettitte dominant for Yanks

NEW YORK (AP)—Russell Martin hit a grand slam to help stop the Yankees' struggles with the bases loaded and Andy Pettitte was dominant again at home, leading New York to a 7-0 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday night.

Nick Swisher hit an RBI double after Raul Ibanez was walked intentionally and the Yankees treated Rays starter James Shields to another drubbing in the Bronx.

Pettitte (3-2) pitched two-hit ball for 7 1-3 innings, striking out 10 in New York's ninth win in 12 games.

Rangers 6, Athletics 3

In Oakland, Ian Kinsler hit a two-run double and Josh Hamilton also doubled in a run to back Derek Holland as Texas beat Oakland.

Yorvit Torrealba hit a sacrifice fly, Adrian Beltre singled twice and Holland (5-4) pitched 5 1-3 innings—looking far stronger than in his last start.

AP

New York Yankees' Russell Martin, left, Nick Swisher, center, and Derek Jeter celebrate their 7-0 win over the Tampa Bay Rays in a baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York, Tuesday, June 5, 2012.

Angels 6, Mariners 1

In Anaheim, Mark Trumbo homered twice, going 4 for 4 with four RBIs, and Garrett Richards pitched seven innings for his first major league win as Los Angeles beat Seattle.

Torii Hunter also went deep to back Richards (1-0), who allowed a run and four hits, walked two and struck out eight against an offense that averaged 9.2 runs over its previous six games.

Orioles 8, Red Sox 6, 10 innings

In Boston, Ronny Paulino ended a hitless night with an RBI single in the 10th inning to drive in the go-ahead run as Baltimore hung on for a win.

The Orioles recovered from Jim Johnson's first blown save opportunity of the season when Jarrod Saltalamma-chia hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth to tie it 6-all.

Indians 4, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Ubaldo Jimenez pitched impressively into the seventh inning and Cleveland hit three run-scoring triples off rookie Drew Smyly in a win over Detroit.

Jimenez (6-4) allowed a run and five hits in 6 2-3 innings, striking out four and walking only one. The right-hander entered the game with 42 walks in 56 innings this year.

Blue Jays 9, White Sox 5

In Chicago, Colby Rasmus went 5 for 5 with a homer to help Ricky Romero earn his seventh win as Toronto beat the White Sox.

Rasmus and David Cooper each hit a two-run homer in the fifth off Phil Humber and both finished with three RBIs in Toronto's 13-hit attack.

Royals 1, Twins 0

In Kansas City, Bruce Chen outdueled Francisco Liriano to make a lone run scored in the second inning stand up, giving Kansas City a win over Minnesota.

Chen (5-5) allowed four hits without a walk to win his fifth in six starts. The 34-year-old lefty relied on veteran guile to strike out five without allowing a runner past second.

Nationals 7, Mets 6

In Washington, rookie Bryce Harper hit a game-winning single with two outs in the 12th inning to give the Washington Nationals a victory over the New York Mets.

Scott Hairston hit a solo homer in the top of the 12th to give New York a 6-5 lead but the Nationals rallied when Michael Morse led off with his second double of the game, and Ian Desmond followed with another double for his third RBI.

Dodgers 2, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Elian Herrera hit a two-run double off winless Cliff Lee in the eighth inning for Los Angeles.

Lee (0-3) took a two-hitter into the eighth and was a strike away from getting out of trouble before Herrera hit a 2-2 pitch off the left-field wall to put the Dodgers ahead.

Cubs 10, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Ryan Dempster earned his first win since last August, throwing seven innings of three-hit ball as the Chicago Cubs beat the Milwaukee Brewers.

Coming into Tuesday's game, Dempster (1-3) had gone 18 straight starts without a victory—a streak dating to Aug. 16 of last season. Dempster broke his winless streak in dominant fashion, not allowing a baserunner until Cody Ransom singled to lead off the sixth.

Braves 11, Marlins 0

In Miami, Dan Uggla hit two homers in his first game at Marlins Park and Tim Hudson pitched a five-hitter for his 13th career shutout to help the Atlanta Braves beat Miami.

Uggla hit a solo homer in the fourth inning, and he scored a direct hit on the middle of the sculpture with a two-run homer in the ninth estimated at 432 feet. That sent a thud reverberating throughout the ballpark and increased his homer total to 10 this season and 200 for his career.

Pirates 8, Reds 4

In Cincinnati, Clint Barmes had three hits and drove in three runs as the Pittsburgh Pirates extended their home-run tear by hitting three more against the Cincinnati Reds.

Neil Walker hit a two-run homer, and Casey McGehee and Alex Presley had solo shots, giving the Pirates seven homers in their last two games.

Astros 9, Cardinals 8

In Houston, Justin Maxwell hit a two-run homer, Jose Altuve tied a career high with four hits and the Houston Astros got to St. Louis starter Jaime Garcia early before holding on against the Cardinals.

The Astros scored four runs in the first inning and Maxwell's homer in the second stretched their lead to 6-1. Brian Bogusevic added a solo home run in the fourth and Chris Snyder drove in two runs for Houston.

Diamondbacks 10, Rockies 0

In Phoenix, Ian Kennedy matched his career high with 12 strikeouts in six innings, Jason Kubel drove in five runs and the Arizona Diamondbacks roughed up the Colorado Rockies.

Gerardo Parra had a solo homer among his four hits, Aaron Hill hit a two-run shot and the Diamondbacks had a season-high 17 hits after being shut out by Colorado the night before.

Padres 6, Giants 5

In San Diego, Logan Forsythe hit his first major league home run leading off the ninth inning to lift the San Diego Padres over the San Francisco Giants.

Forsythe smacked a 1-0 pitch from Steve Edlefsen (0-1) into the second deck in left field.

Huston Street (1-0), who came off the disabled list earlier in the day, pitched the ninth for the win, escaping a bases-loaded jam when Buster Posey hit into a force play.

Clemens gets boost from scientist's testimony

WASHINGTON (AP)—Roger Clemens' defense may have regained the momentum in his perjury trial when a scientist testified that the government's physical evidence against the former pitcher could have been contaminated.

"The weight of the evidence in this case is lacking because of the potential for contamination," forensic toxicologist Bruce Goldberger, a witness for the defense, said Tuesday.

Clemens' former strength coach, Brian McNamee, has testified that he injected Clemens with performance-enhancing substances in 1998, 2000 and 2001 and saved the needle and other waste from a steroids injection in 2001. McNamee says he put the evidence in and around a beer can found in a recycling bin and stored it for more than six years in a box in his house.

Government witnesses have testified that some of the items had both steroids and Clemens' DNA. Goldberger didn't challenge that but said the government's conclusions that Clemens had used steroids were overreaching.

"You have to be certain, you have to be definite," said Goldberger, director of the University of Florida's William R. Maples Center for Forensic Medicine.

Clemens is charged with lying to Congress when he denied taking steroids or human growth hormone.

Clemens lawyer Rusty Hardin steered Goldberger through his attack on the government evidence. What if the evidence had been stored in McNamee's house for several years, Hardin asked, and then laid out in his lawyer's office before it was turned over to federal authorities?

"All of that compromises the integrity and reliability of the evidence," replied Goldberger, who has worked as a consultant to "CSI," the television drama about crime scene evidence analysts.

And storing the evidence in a beer can makes the evidence even more suspect, he said, because the trace amounts of liquid left could facilitate the transfer of items in the can. Goldberger said that when he drinks a can of soda, there's some liquid left.

During cross-examination, prosecutor Daniel Butler pointed out that Goldberger didn't do any testing on the evidence.

"Do you have any evidence from testing that there was cross-contamination?" he asked.

Goldberger said he didn't but that no test could prove it one way or another.

"Life is messy," said Butler, asking the scientist about items that his lab receives from the field.

"If you submit garbage to the laboratory, more than likely you're going to get garbage on the end," replied Goldberger, who stayed unshaken.

The government nearly kept him off the stand. Butler mounted a strong challenge to Goldberger's credentials as an expert witness. U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton sounded ready to agree at one point: "He's being asked to give an opinion outside his expertise."

But Clemens lawyer Hardin vehemently disagreed and eventually persuaded the judge to allow Goldberger to testify with certain limits—including not allowing him to discuss any possibility the evidence was fabricated.

Earlier in the day, a new wrinkle was revealed in a trial that's already run way longer than expected: One of the jurors is leaving June 19 for a six-month trip to Germany. If the juror is excused, the final alternate would be added to the 12-person panel—a cyclist and gym rat who said during jury selection that he knows people who have used steroids.

Clemens' lawyers don't appear to want that man deciding their client's fate. Hardin lobbied the judge to keep the Europe-bound juror on the panel, confident the trial will be over by then.

The defense hopes to rest by the end of this week, but the trial's schedule is littered with partial days and off-days due to schedule conflicts. Two days will be missed next week while the judge is out of town. Plus, Walton noted, it's difficult to predict how long deliberations will take.

Longtime manager Lasorda has 'mild' heart attack

NEW YORK (AP)—Hall of Fame manager Tom Lasorda was hospitalized in stable condition Tuesday, a day after having a "mild" heart attack while representing the Los Angeles Dodgers at the Major League Baseball draft.

The Dodgers said doctors inserted a stent to repair a blocked artery in Lasorda's heart. The energetic, enthusiastic 84-year-old was resting comfortably and there was a chance he could return to California on Wednesday.

"The doctors confirmed I do bleed Dodger Blue. I'm looking forward to being back at the stadium to cheer on the Dodgers," Lasorda said, according to the Dodgers' Twitter feed.

Arizona Diamondbacks manager Kirk Gibson took Lasorda's sense of humor as a sign that he is doing all right.

"He's had a couple (attacks) before, so he's in New York for the draft and probably went out and pounded a huge meal, and went down," said Gibson, who was managed by Lasorda during his playing career.

"I've eaten several meals with him, so I know what it's like. I felt like I was having a heart attack after eating with him as well."

TMZ first reported Lasorda's condition. He is in his sixth decade working for the Dodgers organization, starting out as a pitcher when the team was still in Brooklyn.

Freddie Roach wants KO win

By ROY LUARCA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BOXING

HOLLYWOOD— Freddie Roach wants a knockout, but he'll settle for a dominant win by Manny Pacquiao Saturday night.

The Hall of Fame trainer gave Pacquiao the thumbs-up sign as they closed training camp at the Wild Card Gym here for the long drive to Las Vegas.

He let Pacquiao spar for four rounds with Kevins Hoskins, did the mitts with the eight-division world champion and wound up satisfied.

"Good job," Roach said as he patted Pacquiao at the back. "He's been very good to me."

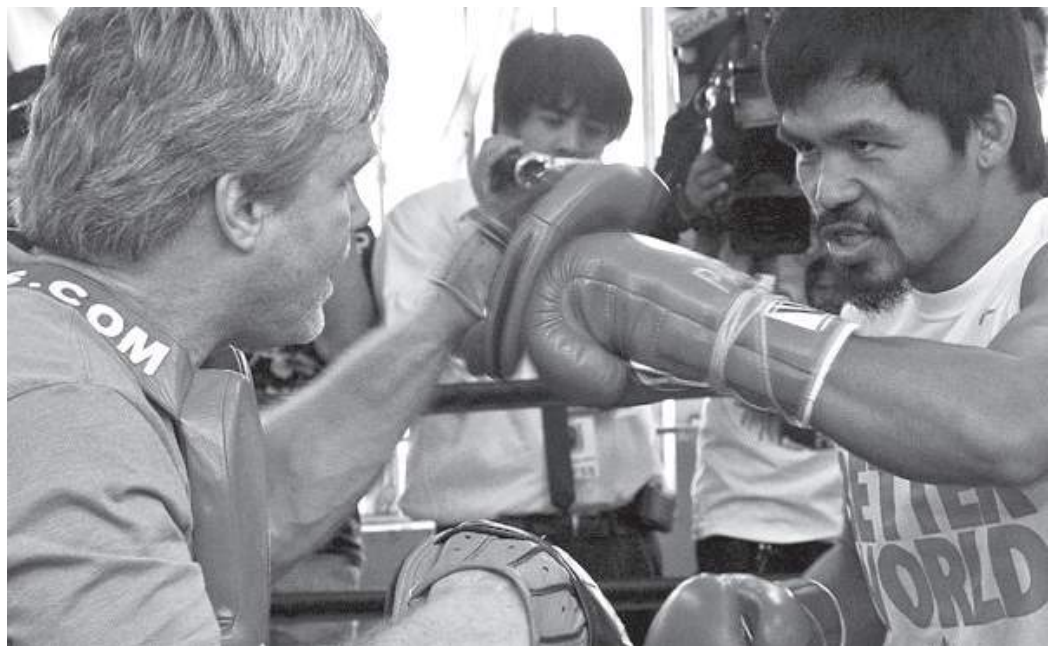
Roach later told Manila-based sportswriters: "He's sharp. We have a good training camp, one of the best ever."

That's why the five-time Trainer of the Year believes Pacquiao will be able to catch Bradley coming in and tally his first knockout win in his last five fights.

But if Bradly chooses to run, Roach knows the fight could go longer—though not the full 12 rounds.

"I don't see it (12 rounds) happening right now, but if it does I'm not worried," said Roach. "I expect Manny to win every round. As long as we put up a good fight and keep the pace up, I'll be satisfied."

According to Roach, Bradley may be durable and tough, but is prone to make some mistakes expecially when he gets excited.



AP

Manny Pacquiao, of the Philippines, spars with his trainer Freddie Roach at a media workout in preparation for his upcoming boxing match against Timothy Bradley, at Roach's Wild Card Boxing Club in Los Angeles Wednesday, May 30, 2012.

Joe's Steak House 8-ball Saturday

The Joe's Steak House 8-Ball Tournament will be held this Saturday.

Entry fee for the Miller Lite-sponsored event is only $10 and is open to all players, but only the first 16 to register will be allowed to play.

Tournament format is double-elimination with winners receiving prizes from Miller Lite.

For more information, call Joe's Steak House at 233-5367. ***(PR)***

ERRATUM

The registration fee announced on June 5, 2012, for CNMI residents in 4th Saipan International Open Water Flipper Race Tournament was erroneous. The correct fee is $25. Valid ID required. For more information, contact Ed Diaz at the Marianas Visitors Authority at ediaz@mymarianas.com or 664-3210.

MISSION

From Page 28

To of Australia was in the world championships and is one of the fastest IM'ers in the world, along with Daniel Lester. It was a great experience, as I almost beat Daniel Lester in the prelims in the 200IM, although he would go 6 seconds faster in the finals as he just wanted to make it into the finals and save energy," Wong said.

"I trained mostly breaststroke this year, which is why my 50m breast and 100m breast times were good ones. I was aiming for a better time in the 200m breast, but that was my fourth swim of the day after the prelims in the 200m IM, 200m breast prelim, and 200m IM final, and I just felt exhausted," he added.

In the 100m breaststroke, Wong tried to go under 1:07.00, but timed in at 1:07.29, which was still enough to break his own record of 1:07.66 made on Aug. 16, 2011 during the 2011 Summer Universiade in Shenzhen, China.

"I'll take any best time over nothing. I aimed for better times but this was just one of those meets you just don't improve that much, it's part of the sport. You can train hard, but sometimes it will pay off later in time. Every race, however well or poorly swam, adds to experience," the University of Hawaii-Manoa mainstay said.

Wong is now back on island for the summer break and will return to UH-Manoa in a few months to finish his last year with the Warriors.

"I would like to go finish off my collegiate career with a blast and perhaps even win the conference, MPSF (Mountain Pacific Sports Federation). It would be amazing if I could make it into the NCAA Championships but there is a lot of work that has to be done," the Marianas High School graduate said.

Besides joining collegiate swimming events, Wong also hopes to compete in his third world championships in Barcelona next year and in the 2016 Olympics in Brazil, representing the Philippines. He can't join the Olympics, donning the colors of the CNMI, as the Commonwealth is not an Olympic member. However, he can represent the Philippines, as he was born to Filipino parents.

"After that, I'm probably done competitive swimming. I've already spent 15 years and counting training, it's about time I catch up with the rest of normal life," Wong said.

Meanwhile, Wong thanked the following for making his stint in the Oceania tournament possible: John Hirsh, Hiro Kimura, Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan, and his parents and friends who donated funds for the trip.

"I would also like to thank Bill Sakovich for helping me a great deal with the details of the trip and coaching me. A big shoutout to Ching Maou Wei of American Samoa for being a good teammate during the trip. A big thank you also to Jennifer Buffin and the Hawaii Team (both the Hawaii Team and the University of Hawaii Team) for being great supporters during the meet and for pushing me in practice, thank you too to Mike White, NMASA, and NMSF for nominating me. I greatly appreciate them and I owe the record I broke to them," Wong said.

CLOSE

From Page 28

tolome and Lucelle Lampera prevailed in the opening game, 21- against Aries Cordero and Jaja Samonte, who came in late, but took the second game, 21-19. Then in the deciding third game, it was another neck-and-neck match with Bartolome and Lampera escaping with a 21-18 triumph.

The closest duel in the mixed doubles B featured the teams of Wowie Abuel and Jane Tupaz and Imbog and Obata. All three games were won on extra points with Abuel and Tupaz pulling off a 22-20 victory in the first game and a 24-22 triumph in the third. The second game was the longest played with Imbog and Obata winning, 26-24, to force a third game.

For the lone mixed doubles B match won in straight games, Roger Vales and Babes Cielo defeated Son Jae Ok and Emily Vargas, 21-19, 21-19.

In other mixed doubles results, Noli Santos and Annarose Omori and Dick Guintu and Malou Malasarte needed three sets to beat separate foes in the A division, while Joel and Alma Ortega had an easy win in the C division.

Santos and Omori edged Ferdie Arago and Lani Bartolome, 21-0, 15-21, 24-22; Guintu and Malasarte downed Sam Jones and Loyda Ito, 21-23, 21-6, 21-12; and the Ortegas swept Dick Koo and Woo Kyung Bae, 21-11, 21-12.

Joel Ortega was also victorious in the singles play, whipping Panapa Peteru in their C division duel, 21-12, 21-12. Other winners in the men's C singles were Rommel Bartolome against Simisi, 21-16, 21-11 and Talania over Son Jae Ok, 0-21, 21-14, 21-12.

In the men's B singles, Abuel and Jexler Caranto swept Vic Reyes, 21-10, 21-17, and Ramir Belialba, 21-18, 21-16, respectively, while the lone men's A singles match last Friday had Saul Gargallo surviving Rodwealth Espana, 17-21, 21-18, 23-21.

For the women's singles results, Hanai Choi made short work of Lani Bartolome in the A division, 21-16, 21-6, while Kim Boranah also cruised to a two-game win over Marylyn Montano in the B division, 21-16, 21-17. The other women's B singles tiff had Loyda Ito eking out a 21-16, 17-21, 21-16 triumph over Merlie Tolentino.

Week 3 preliminary games in the IT&E tournament continued last Saturday and Sunday and results will be published in *Saipan Tribune*'s Friday issue. After the preliminaries, only four teams/individuals will advance to the playoffs.

STRONG

From Page 28

Tan Holdings.

All three goals of MP United were posted in the first half, while Tan Holdings had only one, courtesy of Unsa in the 39th minute. Before Unsa scored, MP United was enjoying a 3-0 lead after Park broke the ice early at the fifth minute mark of the first half, got his second goal only four minutes later, and Lee added one more in the 23rd minute.

However, MP United's offense was stalled in the second half, allowing a Tan Holdings comeback. Tanapon cut the lead to one with his goal in the 52nd minute, while Konkoed connected on the equalizer just two minutes later.

Meanwhile, the first of the last two games between Matansa (0-0-10) and Tan Holdings will be played this Saturday at the Oleai pitch at 1pm, while the final

LAGUNA

From Page 28

guna's Hae Jun Park completed a 3-point play before Batangas went on silent mode. Jun Abedes, who made Batangas' last basket before the drought, missed his last nine attempts, while Park, Sonny Ebuen, and Henry Manipon joined forces in a 10-0-run for Laguna's double-digit lead, 69-58, only 1:34 left on the clock.

Batangas continued to struggle on offense in the ensuing plays before making three field goals in the final 43 seconds of the fourth canto where the game was already in the bag for Laguna.

Manipon paced Laguna with his 17 points, while Park added 13. Abedes had 20 markers for Batangas, which absorbed its second loss after three matches despite leading its foe in the first half.

Joseph Galulu also finished in double figures for Batangas with 16, 10 of them came in the first period for their 21-17 advantage. The lead went up to 5 at the break, 37-32, with Abedes adding 5 and his four other teammates also scoring.

Batangas hung on to the lead until the last three minutes of the third quarter where Laguna connected on three straight triples to grab the driver's seat, 54-51, entering the fourth. It was a seesaw battle in the first five minutes of the final canto before Batangas blinked in the last five, allowing Laguna to notch its first win.

MDX 85, MAFEA 57

In the second game, MDX/Armatech improved to a 3-0 record after another blowout win.

The defending champion, which won by 17 points against Laguna last weekend, this time took a 28-point victory over the hapless MAFEA/CMI, thanks to MDX's guards combo—James Abuy, Martin Moreno, and Ferdie Tobias.

Abuy scored 18 points, including 12 from beyond the arc, while Moreno and Tobias chipped in 17 and 14, respectively. With Abuy waxing hot from downtown, MDX outgunned MAFEA in the 3-point shooting, 7-2. Moreno made two triples, while Yosh Gabaldon drilled one.

Abuy drained two early triples and finished with 10 in the first period that ended with MDX already on top by 13, 30-17. MDX were never threatened from thereon.

Mike Surima led MAFEA's losing cause with his 20 points. MAFEA fell to a 0-2 card

First Game

MDX/Armatech 85 – Abuy 18, Moreno 17, Tobias 14, Malasarte 8, Trajano 7, Crisostomo 5, Montano 4, Canedo 4, Gabaldon 4, Poquiz 2, Berline 1.

MAFEA/CMI 57 – Surima 20, Paraiso 8, Malicden 8, Leong 8, Factor 4, Sevilla 4, Jastillana 3, Garcia 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-17, 49-31, 68-45, 85-57.

Second Game

Laguna/Twinkle's/Erika's 75 – Manipon 17, Park 13, Ebuen 9, Villegas 8, Lansang 6, Tabora 6, Salazar 5, Guerrero 4, Pablo 3, Pangilinan 2.

Batangas/Fong's Bakery 64 – Abedes 20, Galulu 16, Bernardo 10, Alano 6, Alejandro 4, Buniag 3, Jacob 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-21, 32-37, 54-51, 75-64.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	31	24	.564	–
Tampa Bay	31	24	.564	–
New York	30	24	.556	1/2
Toronto	29	26	.527	2
Boston	28	27	.509	3

Central Division

Chicago	31	24	.564	–
Cleveland	29	25	.537	1 1/2
Detroit	25	30	.455	6
Kansas City	24	30	.444	6 1/2
Minnesota	21	34	.382	10

West Division

Texas	33	23	.589	–
Los Angeles	29	28	.509	4 1/2
Seattle	25	33	.431	9
Oakland	24	32	.429	9

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	31	22	.585	–
Miami	31	24	.564	1
New York	31	25	.554	1 1/2
Atlanta	30	25	.545	2
Philadelphia	28	29	.491	5

Central Division

Cincinnati	30	24	.556	–
Pittsburgh	28	26	.519	2
St. Louis	28	28	.500	3
Houston	24	31	.436	6 1/2
Milwaukee	24	31	.436	6 1/2
Chicago	19	36	.345	11 1/2

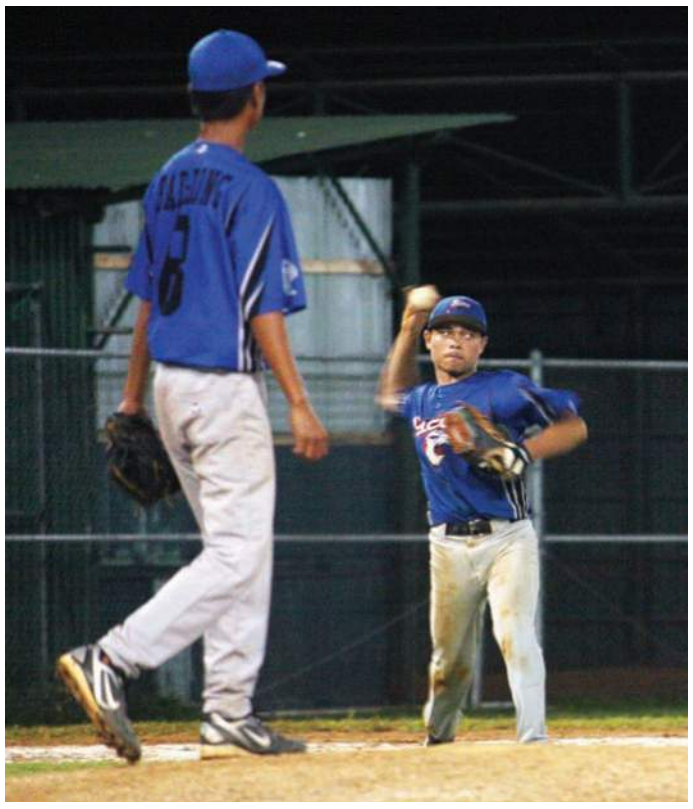
West Division

Los Angeles	35	21	.625	–
San Francisco	31	25	.554	4
Arizona	26	30	.464	9
Colorado	24	31	.436	10 1/2
San Diego	19	37	.339	16

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Junior League Championship

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



Falcons' third baseman Joe Lizama tries to shoot out a runner at first base.

Ol'Aces' A.J. Lizama batted 2-for-3 with two RBIs and three runs during the championship.

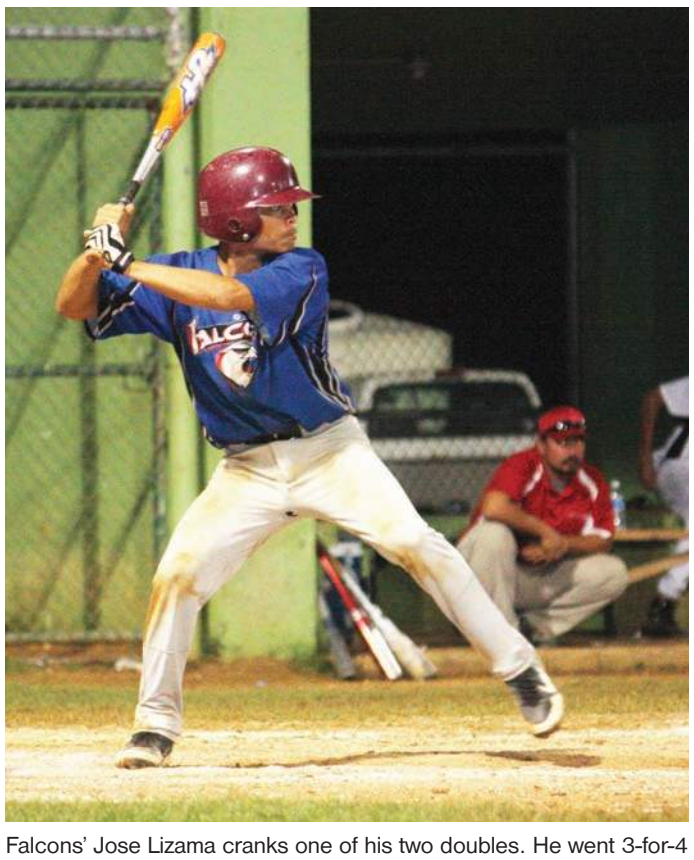
Falcons' lefty Adolfo Ropuul delivers a pitch against Ol'Aces in the middle inning of their Saipan Little League-Junior Division championship game held last May 26 at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

Two Ol'Aces players run down a little Texas-league blooper.

Ol'Aces Jonah Flores rears back for a big swing.

Ol'Aces' Zak Yamagishi gets a leadoff at first base, while Falcons' James Phillips keeps a keen eye on the ball.

Some Falcons players keep their heads up despite coming up short in the final duel.



Falcons' Jose Lizama cranks one of his two doubles. He went 3-for-4 with two RBIs and a run on the big stage.

Ol'Aces'Lancaster Secharmidal serves up a pitch.

Martin hits slam, Pettitte dominant for Yanks

25

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Celtics take control of East, beat Heat

24

Mission accomplished for Rezne in Noumea

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The notable performance of CNMI swimmer Rezne Wong in last week's 9th Oceania Swimming Championships in New Caledonia is another feather in his cap.

The 21-year-old swimmer joined six races in the five-day competition at the Guy Verlaguet pool in Dumbéa, reset one CNMI national record, and made it to the finals in all of his events. He raced against top swimmers from 13 other nations, including those from powerhouse Australia and New Zealand.

"I wanted to go to the Oceania champs, so that I can race these high-class swimmers. Kenneth

See MISSION on Page 26

Rezne Wong, seen here swimming for the University of Hawaii-Manoa varsity team, reset one CNMI national record and made it to the finals in all of his events in the 9th Oceania Swimming Championships held last week in New Caledonia.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Strong finish for Paire U18

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association

JirehYobeh completed a hat-trick to lift Paire FC to a 8-1 demolition of Matansa FC in the boys U18 division of the 2012 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Last weekend's game was Paire's last and Yobech and company completed the three-round league in second place behind MP United with a 7-0-5 win-draw-loss record. Also scoring in Paire's season-finale were Don Cabrera, Dale Ballesteros, Thomas Lee, and Juanito Tiamzon.

Paire scored four goals apiece in the first and second half with its first three made in a span of six minutes. Yobeh gained his first goal in the 12th minute and three minutes later Cabrera also scored. Then in the 18th minute, Yobech found the back of the net anew, while Cabrera duplicated the former's feat with his second goal in the 26th minute.

Matansa also scored in the first half, but got only one from Angelo Guevarra, with only six minutes left before the break.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Paire player, right, gets in the way of a Matansa striker during their first round meeting in the NMIFA boys U18 league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Paire and Matansa met for the last time this season with the former winning, 8-1.

At the resumption of the match, Ballesteros made it a 5-1 Paire lead with his goal in the 52nd, while Yobech completed the hat-trick at the 64th minute mark. Paire's last two goals were recorded in a span of three minutes with Tiamzon and Lee lighting up the scoreboard in the 66th and 69th minute.

MP United 3, Tan Holdings 3

In the other U18 game, MP United saved a draw against Tan Holdings.

MP United, which had already secured the division title, two weeks ago, ended the season with a 10-1-1 slate, while Tan Holdings fell to a 4-1-5 card, with two games left (both against Matansa).

Chris Park gave MP United twin goals, while Seoung Joon Lee nailed the other one. Tanapon Unsa also had two goals, while Thanyakorn Konkoed drilled the third goal for

See STRONG on Page 26

Close games in mixed doubles B

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

NMBA

Four of the five games in the mixed doubles B went the distance at the start of Week 3 of the IT&E Singles & Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2012 last Friday at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

In the first match, Brandon Talania and Chris Obaldo dropped their opening game against Jeff Riman and Annette Quiambao, 16-21, but won the last two, 21-15, 21-8.

Also recovering from a first game loss were the pair of Oh Imbog and Toshiko Obata, who incidentally slipped past Talania and Obaldo, 22-24, 21-11, 21-17.

The duo of Rommel Bar-

See CLOSE on Page 26

Aries Cordero has all eyes on the shuttlecock during his and Jaja Samonte's mixed doubles B game against Jerry Tan and Shirley Kim in the IT&E tournament last weekend at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Laguna breaks into win column

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Budweiser BUD CUP 2011

Laguna/Twinkle's/Erika's barged into the win column in the 2012 UFO Masters Budweiser Cup after prevailing over Batangas/Fong's Bakery, 75-64, last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Laguna, which dropped its debut last Sunday against defending champion MDX/Armatech, 78-95, held Batangas scoreless for more than four minutes in the fourth and final period for its first win.

Only one point separated the opposing teams midway in the fourth period, 59-58, after La-

See LAGUNA on Page 26

Laguna/Twinkle's/Erika's Sonny Ebuen drives against Batangas/Fong Bakery's Joel Buniag, left, and Joseph Galulu during the fourth quarter of their game in the UFO Budweiser Cup last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO